

**A Supreme rebuff for Rosenkrantz**  
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Comedian Marga Gomez to  
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**Gaily forward!**  
SF Les/Gay Freedom Band  
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see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 17 • 24 April 2003

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Marc Geller

## Lots of Sisters at Easter party

Members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence were out in force during the group's annual Easter celebration Sunday in San Francisco's Dolores Park. The party featured music, games, a "Hunky Jesus" contest, an Easter bonnet contest, and face painting. For a look back at the Sisters, see the Past Out column on page 11.

## AIDS researchers find themselves under a microscope

by Matthew S. Bajko

**R**esearch on health issues impacting the LGBT community has become the latest target of conservatives in Congress, according to medical professionals from across the country.

After years of attacking HIV prevention efforts, these policymakers are now turning up the heat on researchers studying sex workers, gays, lesbians, and transgender, numerous doctors have reported.

In order to escape what the scientists call heightened scrutiny of their research they are being told to censor language that refers to LGBT health or sexual practices in their grants for funding from the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In addition, the scientists report they are

being told by project officers overseeing their proposals to eliminate sensitive terms from the titles and abstracts of their studies.

The end result, these doctors said, is that their work will become nearly impossible for health providers who work with LGBT patients to access. They also contend the increased attention could have a chilling effect on future research, with scientists opting not to pursue studies concerning LGBT health issues so as not to subject themselves to the scrutiny from Washington officials.

"According to our sources, e-mails to the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are being screened for sensitive keywords such as 'commercial sex workers,' 'needle exchange,' 'men having sex with men,' 'prostitutes,' 'transgender,' and 'harm reduction,' and some program staff have been reprimanded for 'inappropriate language.' In addition titles and abstracts of NIH grants are being screened for similar key words," Dr. Kenneth Haller, president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, said this week.

Haller said over the past month researchers in Baltimore, Chicago, New York, and San Francisco have reported being singled out by congressional members and officials at the Department of Health and Human Services for their work in LGBT health.

A top researcher at the University of California at San Francisco, who spoke to the *Bay Area Reporter* on condition of anonymity, said the political pressures on researchers are already having a negative toll.

"I have had junior scientists ask me 'Should I be doing something else? Should I not be doing AIDS research? Should I not be doing research with these populations?' The effect can only be described as a chilling effect," said the researcher. "If young people who are concerned about their careers are discouraged about coming into the field, it is not a good thing."

According to Haller, much of the driving force behind these inquiries lies outside the federal agencies.

"There have apparently been cases of

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## TG murder suspect freed

by Ed Walsh

**P**ersuaded by evidence that she may have acted in self-defense, the San Francisco District Attorney's office has thrown out homicide charges against Santianna "Cindy" Flagler, the transgender woman who allegedly fatally stabbed her boyfriend, Michael Neal.

"Just as important as it is for us to prosecute guilty people, it's equally important for us not to prosecute those who acted in self-defense," Assistant District Attorney Jim Hammer told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week.

Hammer cautioned that the investigation is continuing and if evidence surfaces that would prove that Flagler did not act in self-defense, he is prepared to file homicide charges. Hammer explained that if a defendant claims self-defense, the burden is on the prosecution to prove that the killing was not committed in self-defense.

Two witnesses to the April 9 stabbing told the *B.A.R.* that Flagler acted to protect herself from Neal after he allegedly attacked her in the hallway of the CW Hotel on Folsom Street where

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Jim Hammer

Jane Philomen Cleveland

## Rick Santorum vies to succeed Helms as most homophobic senator

by Bob Roehr

**P**ennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, the third ranking Republican in that body, generated a firestorm of criticism with comments he made comparing gay rights to incest. The Human Rights Campaign this week called for him to step down from his leadership position.

An April 21 article by the Associated Press said Santorum believes that "homosexuality, feminism, liberalism all undermine the family. Even parts of the Constitution can harm the family."

Buried within and largely ignored by the first round of media coverage was the fact that Santorum does not believe in the broader concept of individual privacy.

"If the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual (gay) sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything," the Pennsylvania lawmaker said in the recent interview, fuming over a landmark gay rights case before the high court that pits a Texas sodomy law against equality and privacy rights.

"All of those things are antithetical to a



Senator Rick Santorum

healthy, stable, traditional family," Santorum said. "And that's sort of where we are in today's world, unfortunately. It all comes from, I would argue, this right to privacy that doesn't exist, in my opinion, in the United States Constitution."

Santorum's press spokeswoman, Erica Clayton Wright, later sought to clarify by saying that the senator had no problem with gay relationships, he was "speaking about the right to privacy within the context of the Supreme Court case." He did not want to elevate gay sex to the level of a constitutional right.

Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director, said that Santorum's comments "are deeply hurtful and play on deep-seated fears that fly in the face of scientific evidence, common sense, and basic decency. Clearly there is no compassion in his conservatism."

HRC spokesman David Smith dismissed Wright's clarification that Santorum has no problem with gay people.

"It's analogous to saying, 'I have no problem with Jewish people or black people, I just don't think they should be equal under the law,'" Smith said.

"There is nothing conservative about allowing law enforcement officials to enter the home of any American and arrest them for simply being gay," said Log Cabin Republican

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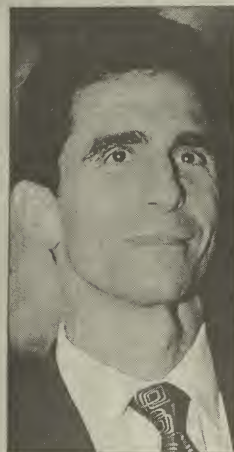
# Assembly passes gender protections bill

by Zak Szymanski

A landmark bill that codifies the prohibition of discrimination in housing and employment on the basis of gender stereotyping may well be on its way to becoming law. AB196, by Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) passed the full Assembly on Monday, April 21 with a vote of 42-34-4. All the yes votes were from Democrats, while the no votes included 31 Republicans and three Democrats: Assemblymembers Lou Correa (Santa Ana), Nicole Parra (Hanford), and Sarah Reyes (Fresno). The bill now heads to the Senate for committee hearings.

AB196 protects people from discrimination on the basis of their real or perceived gender identity. Gender discrimination occurs when a person is treated unfairly because the individual looks or acts differently from what an employer or landlord considers "normal" for a particular gender. A "too butch" woman, a "sissy" guy, or a transgender person all may face judgments about their suitability for work and shelter based on their presentation and expression.

The bill is estimated to have little to no fiscal impact on the state's budget, because the state's Department of Fair Employment and Housing already investigates



Assemblyman Mark Leno

cases of gender-based discrimination under existing sex discrimination laws. The language of the bill, according to Leno's office, simply clarifies what is already illegal.

"No one should have to face discrimination or harassment because of gender-related characteristics that have nothing to do with their qualifications as a tenant or employee," said Geoff Kors, executive director of California Alliance for Pride and

Equality — soon to be Equality California. "This bill simply codifies the already established fact that every Californian has the basic right to a job and housing regardless of gender identity or expression."

AB196 is Leno's re-introduction of last year's AB1649, by Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles). Goldberg's bill died in the Senate before it was heard.

In general, said Leno's office, the bill has a lot more support this time around, including key endorsements by more than 50 employment, labor, and housing group.

Leno said that he is confident the bill will pass through the Senate and reach the governor's desk.

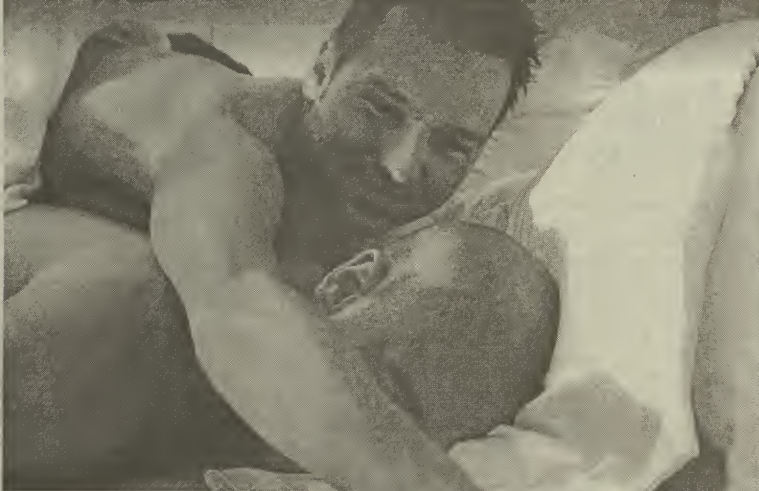
"I can honestly report that my colleagues recognize that this an important civil rights bill," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "And with as many Latino/a, African American, and Asian American members in our Democratic caucus as we have, I feel a real connection that they understand this is part of a larger issue."

Whether Governor Gray Davis will sign AB196 is another story; Davis has not indicated his position on the bill, said Leno.

LGBT community members and other supporters of the bill are asked to join in writing letters

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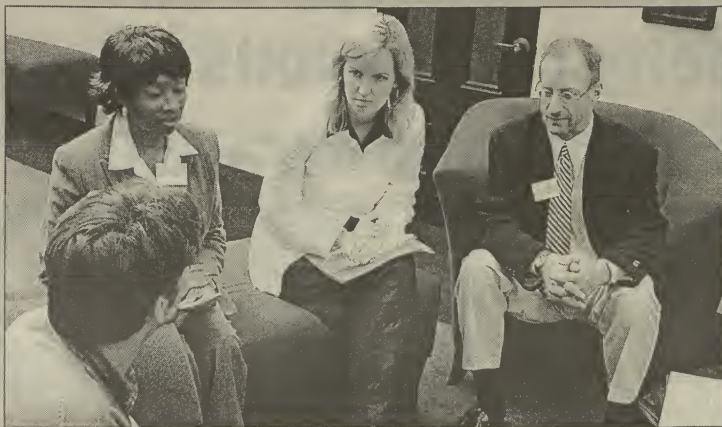


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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Lobbying for ADAP funding



On Monday, April 21, more than 50 AIDS activists from Northern California traveled to Sacramento to encourage full-funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program and to voice their opposition to proposed co-payments. Above, Mary Beth Maloney, center, a legislative aide to Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) listens to concerns from activists Nona Nangalama, left, and Randy Allgaier, right. The lobby day was organized by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's HIV Advocacy Network.

## CDC puts prevention focus on HIV-positives

by Matthew S. Bajko

After the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced last week a new set of priorities for stemming the spread of HIV, many mainstream media outlets focused on the agency's move to test all pregnant women for the virus.

While the issue of prenatal HIV tests is still controversial among AIDS advocacy groups, and Governor Gray Davis vetoed a bill last year that would have required doctors throughout the state to test expectant mothers, another initiative announced by the CDC is sure to become embroiled in controversy and has far-reaching implications for the gay community.

The initiative sounds simple enough: working with people diagnosed with HIV and their partners. But how the government intends to implement the initiative is already sparking concern among HIV prevention officials.

The same day the CDC was announcing its new initiatives, federal health officials conducted a private phone conference with AIDS prevention groups to explain how the agency intended to carry it out. According to an account in the *Los Angeles Times*, the government plans to shift nearly \$90 million away from existing programs aimed at keeping people HIV-negative toward initiatives that offer HIV testing and counseling to infected people.

The change in policy means "There ain't going to be any more safe-sex workshops," Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS, told the *Times*.

Anderson, who listened to the call from Dr. Rob Janssen, director of HIV prevention at the CDC, said, "There ain't going to be any more public attitude campaigns around this."

How this new policy will play out, especially in San Francisco, remains to be seen. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation assailed the new plan for failing to advance a comprehensive approach to HIV

prevention.

Foundation officials also said they are disappointed that the CDC is de-emphasizing and reducing the funds available for prevention programs aimed at those who are not HIV-infected. Under the new initiative, community-based organizations that are directly funded by the CDC will have to conduct programs from a list of specified activities related to the initiative.

Some activities currently funded by the CDC, such as social marketing campaigns and workshops focused on risk reduction among those who are not infected, will be excluded from the list of activities, according to the foundation.

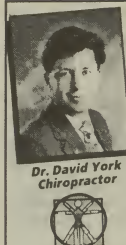
"While we strongly support efforts to target HIV-positive people, we must not turn our back on other programs that we know are crucial to minimizing HIV infections in our communities," said

Fred Dillon, the foundation's director of policy and communications. "Comprehensive sexual health education, including information on the correct and consistent use of condoms among those who are sexually active, and risk reduction education for those at risk remains crucial."

The attention to HIV-positives is also a relatively new approach in prevention efforts. While the Stop AIDS Project has been participating for several years in a demonstration project funded by the federal government, the agency had been told funding for its Positive Force program would run out at the end of this year.

David Evans, Stop AIDS program director, said it is unclear if the program will be funded under the new initiative. And he said there is a concern among AIDS agencies the new initiatives are a covert way of attacking the pre-

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ANIMAL HEALTH NETWORK, INC. is proud to announce the addition of Dr. Calvin G. Lum to the AHN family. Dr. Lum is a graduate of the University of California Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. He also has a B.A. in Zoology and a B.S. in Biology both from the University of California Berkeley. Dr. Lum is a native of San Francisco and has been in practice for sixteen years in the Bay Area.

With a heavy heart we also bid farewell to Dr. Chris Hummel after eight years with our AHN family. Dr. Hummel, his partner Dan and their Irish Setter "Monty" will be returning to their roots in Texas. We want to thank Dr. Hummel for his years of excellent service to our hospital and community. He will be truly missed.

We welcome all of Dr. Hummel's clients to stop in and say goodbye and welcome Dr. Lum to our family and community.

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# Defense lawyers deny confessions in Salinas murder case

by Ed Walsh

Two defense attorneys are denying reports that their respective clients confessed to the alleged murder of a bisexual man in Monterey County.

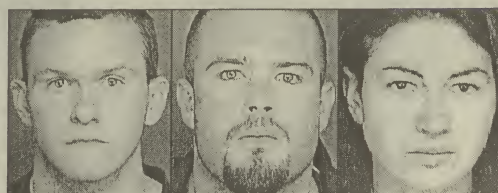
A police affidavit released last week noted that Jeanne Soja, 29, and her boyfriend, Dominique England, 23, confessed to participating in the murder of Robert Maricle, 30.

"She did not confess to any participation," attorney Tom Worthington told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week. "The evidence will show that."

Worthington acknowledged that Soja was with England and the third suspect, Daymon Schrock, 20, during "a dispute" the men had with Maricle in her apartment. When asked when Soja first learned when Maricle had been killed, Worthington said that was among the questions he couldn't answer at this time.

Maricle was reported missing four months ago. His body was discovered in an undisclosed location in a rural area of northern Monterey County two weeks ago.

All three suspects were charged with murder and have pleaded not



From left, suspects Dominique England, Daymon Schrock, Jeanne Soja

guilty. The date for a preliminary hearing is expected to be set this week.

England's attorney, Bud Landreth, also told the *B.A.R.* that his client did not confess and that many of the statements by police in their reports on the case were "totally unfounded." Landreth added that he was very limited to what he could say because the judge asked the attorneys involved to avoid publicly discussing the case.

Just after the trio's arrest, Salinas Police said that Maricle's sexual orientation was one of the motivations for the crime. But prosecutors declined to charge any of the suspects with a hate crime because they said there wasn't enough evidence to prove that charge. Police also said that the suspects were guilty of torture and kidnapping but the prosecution has only charged the three defendants with murder.

A memorial service was held for Maricle last weekend in Salinas. According to his published obituary, Maricle is survived by a son who lives in Missouri. His parents and brother are from Monterey County. His father, Jerry Maricle, is a retired Salinas homicide detective.

Police said that Maricle met England, Soja, and Schrock while visiting a friend who lived in the

same Salinas apartment building. According to police reports, England and Schrock said they gave Maricle a ride on the day he disappeared but the men gave different locations when they were asked where they left Maricle.

Police have alleged that Schrock was a member of a white supremacist gang and that England may also have had an association with the gang. Worthington said that the only evidence police have of a hate crime is that alleged gang connection.

Longtime bisexual activist and author Lani Ka'ahumanu called the alleged kidnapping, torture, and murder of Maricle "shocking," but said such violent acts against bisexuals are not uncommon.

"As shocking to me are the statistics on bi hate crimes from Community United Against Violence and the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs," Ka'ahumanu stated in an e-mail to the *B.A.R.* "There were 57 violent hate incidents reported in the Bay Area that targeted bisexuals in 2002. That number compared to 17 in 2001 is more than a little disturbing. The NCAVP numbers report 72 for 2000 and 2001. My sense is that these numbers are low since many bisexuals don't report incidents because they don't know they can." ▼

## Antiwar forum Friday at MCC-SF

by Liz Highleyman

The Out Against the War Coalition will present an antiwar forum Friday, April 25 at Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco in the Castro. The forum will be an opportunity to discuss ideas and strategies for opposing war and promoting peace, organizers said.

The evening's speakers will include Caitlin Funk, the sister of gay Marine reservist Stephen Funk, who recently declared himself a conscientious objector to the war in Iraq. Stephen Funk had originally been scheduled to speak, but this week was sent by the Marines to Louisiana. Caitlin Funk is an activist with the Uhuru Movement.

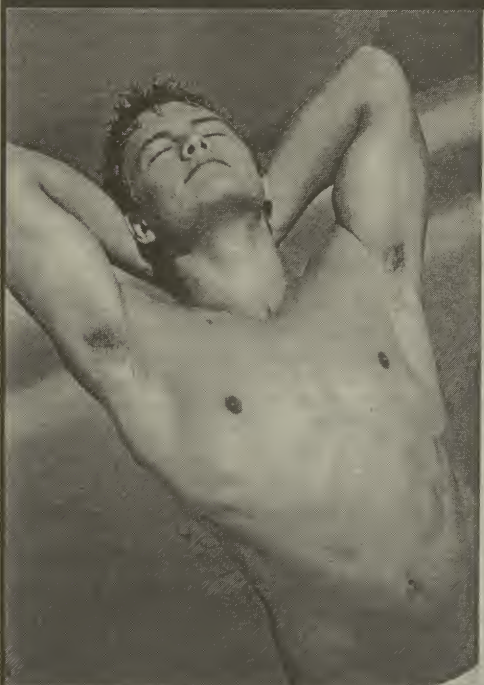
The forum will also feature Kara Speltz, a lesbian activist with Soulforce and the international Christian Peacemakers Team, who, as the *Bay Area Reporter* reported earlier this

month, recently returned from Iraq; Deeg Gold, a longtime antiwar activist and member of Lesbian and Gay Insurrection; Castro peace vigil organizer Victor Valdiviezo of Latinos Contra La Guerra; and Stephen McNeil of the American Friends Service Committee. Following the presentations there will be an open dialogue with audience participation.

In addition to Out Against the War – a coalition of Bay Area lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender groups and individuals opposed to war – forum endorsers include Global Exchange, LAGAI, QUIT, Community United Against Violence, the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, and Bay Area United Against War.

The forum begins at 8 p.m. at the church, located at 150 Eureka Street. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted toward Stephen Funk's legal defense fund. For more information, call (415) 826-3984. ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# LGBT people of color project launched

by Zak Szymanski

For LGBT people who believe all rap music is homophobic and the Latino machismo attitude helps to further gender stereotypes, get ready to receive an education. Same goes for communities outside of white LGBT America which may have preconceived notions about sexual, racial, and ethnic minorities.

Although many people occupy more than one cultural identity, there remains a gap between how LGBT people of color are understood and represented. And with the most recent census data showing over 35 million United States residents to be black or African American in race, and equal numbers, race aside, to be of Hispanic or Latino origin, overlooking culturally specific social and political messages to these communities would be shortsighted.

So believes the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, one of a growing number of LGBT-identified organizations that are making outreach to communities of color a priority. As part of GLAAD's new strategic plan for its future, it has launched the People of Color Media Program to promote fair, accurate, and inclusive representations of LGBT people of color in both the queer and mainstream press.

An outgrowth and official



GLAAD's Monica Taher

recognition of GLAAD's outreach to such communities over the past several years, the POC Media Program will operate out of the Los Angeles office and is headed by the former western regional media manager Monica Taher.

San Francisco's Loren Javier, one of two full-time staffers in GLAAD's San Francisco office, will serve the program as a consultant. In order to streamline its resources, GLAAD will close its San Francisco office on or around May 10; Javier, choosing to stay in the Bay Area rather than move to L.A., will continue his nine years' worth of outreach to communities of color from a contract position.

L.A.'s Taher began her new duties on April 14. She is excited, she said, to build bridges across various cultures and to make GLAAD a more effective organization.

"One of the things that the POC Media Program intends to do is to get the LGBT press to increase its POC coverage," said Taher. "The gay press is going to cover LGBT issues, but how many of those articles pertain to people of color?"

Likewise, said Taher, ensuring fair and accurate inclusion of LGBT people in the newspapers that are Asian or Spanish language specific, for instance, is a task that requires not only education but translation — sometimes when there is no direct corresponding word for someone's American identity.

For GLAAD, such outreach will take many forms. For the first time it will be taking an active role in not just following — but monitoring — LGBT press coverage.

Race and culture barriers continually rear their heads in the queer press, often not by what is said, but assumed. For instance, the notion that communities of color are more homophobic than white communities is a misnomer, said Taher, that furthers an unnecessary divide. The Latino expression known as machismo, for instance, is translated into English as a negative "macho" ideal, which

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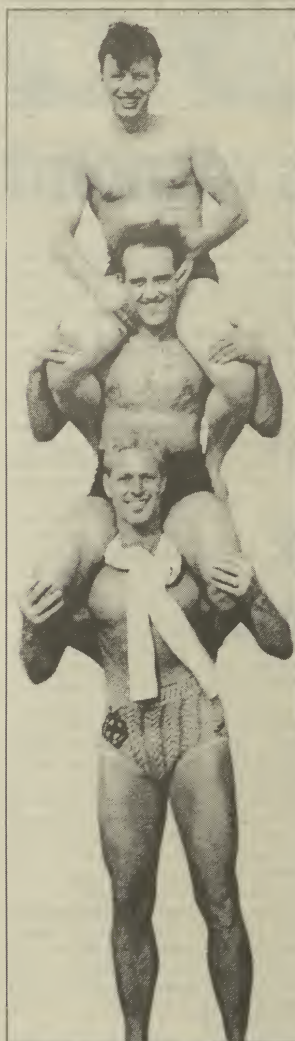
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Volume 33, Number 17  
24 April 2003PUBLISHER  
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## OPEN FORUM

## Santorum's slip-up

Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, a darling of the Christian right and the third-ranking Republican in his party's Senate leadership, stuck his foot in his mouth this week when he gave a lengthy interview to the Associated Press and railed against the Texas sodomy law case that is now being reviewed by the Supreme Court. In comments that have been reported widely, Santorum equated homosexuality with bigamy, polygamy, and incest. With his homophobic remarks, Santorum has written the latest chapter in the rift between gays and Republicans, and his words show why it'll be a long time before we achieve equal standing with other minority groups. By Wednesday afternoon, Santorum showed no evidence that he will apologize for his hateful, divisive comments. "I can't deny that I said it, and I can't deny that's how I feel," Santorum said when given a chance to "clarify" his comments.

"I have no problem with homosexuality," I have a problem with homosexual acts," he said during the April 7 interview. Then he addressed the Texas sodomy case: "If the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual (gay) sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything."

What's telling about this statement is that Santorum is not talking about a policy issue—he's talking about what we do in the privacy of our own bedrooms as consenting adults. He thinks consensual sex by same-sex couples should be illegal; that he compares gay sex to incest is repugnant. Santorum's statement is a stunning leap in reasoning.

Santorum's comments are reminiscent of those made by other Republican lawmakers over the years. Who can forget former Congressman Dick Armey calling gay Congressman Barney Frank "Barney Fag," and that Senator Trent Lott likened gays to kleptomaniacs.

Not surprisingly, a range of gay rights groups including the Human Rights Campaign, LLEGO (the national Latino LGBT organization), the Log Cabin Republicans, and the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, have condemned Santorum's comments. Gay lawmakers and gay-friendly De-

mocrats have also been critical, particularly those Democrats running for president who are seeking support from the LGBT community. Former Vermont Governor Howard Dean, who has made equality for all a cornerstone of his campaign, was most eloquent. "That a leader of the Republican Party would make such insensitive and divisive comments—comments that are derogatory and meant to harm an entire group of Americans, their friends, and their families—is not only outrageous, but deeply offensive," Dean stated.

Two of Dean's rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination, Massachusetts Senator John Kerry and North Carolina Senator John Edwards, also spoke out against Santorum's comments.

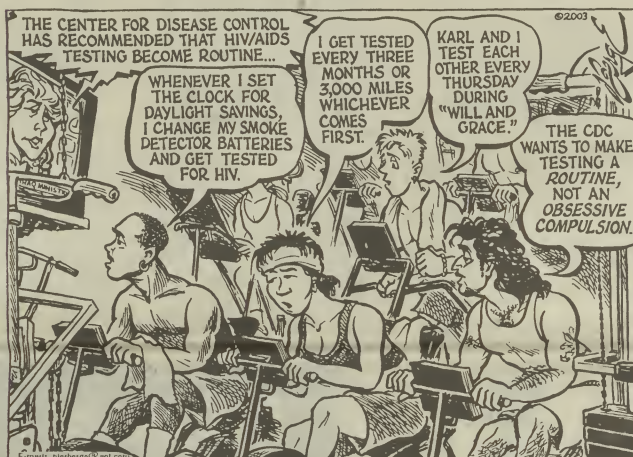
Despite the public outcry from critics, Santorum is unlikely to be removed from his leadership post the way Senator Lott was shown the door last year after his remarks praising the segregationist past of then-Sen-

ator Strom Thurmond. After all, in many respects, the LGBT community is still the brunt of hatred, off-color jokes, and vitriol from most Republicans, especially those aligned with the Christian right. We would argue that Santorum knew exactly what he was saying when he gave that interview, and the motivation behind the comments was probably to shore up support among the conservative base. Notably, President Bush has been silent on the issue, which proves to us again that his talk of "compassionate conservatism" is just hot air. Bush was instrumental in the Senate's decision to remove Lott from leadership last year.

so that the administration could curry favor with African Americans. We do not see that happening in this case—claims of the Log Cabin Republicans to the contrary notwithstanding—there is no evidence that the national Republican leadership has any interest in developing a positive relationship with gays. ▼



## Editorial



## LGBT center co-chairs respond

by Scott Wiener  
and Randi Gerson

We, the co-chairs of the board of directors of the LGBT Community Center, are writing to correct certain exaggerations and inaccuracies in Joe Dignam's story entitled "Fiscal woes engulf LGBT center."

We acknowledge that the center has financial challenges, as do all nonprofits in this economy, but the B.A.R. has blown those challenges out of proportion and has focused on them to the exclusion of the positive things that the center has achieved. The center has been a success both in the thousands of people who use it every week and the nearly 400 activities and programs that occur there every month. We question why the B.A.R. would run an article that focuses exclusively on the center's financial challenges, that ignores the proactive and fiscally responsible steps that we have taken to ensure the center's health and stability, and that ignores the center's achievements as a new organization.

The center is a new organization. It is one-year-old and opened in the worst economic downturn in decades. Like any new organization in a bad economy, we are not flush with cash. All fundraising—even for established nonprofits—is down. We certainly have raised money—and we thank our donors—but we have not raised as much as we anticipated. This should surprise no one and should not have been surprising to the B.A.R. But, despite the challenges of a start-up nonprofit opening in a terrible economy, the center has responded with creativity, sound management, and proactivity to keep the organization stable and healthy.

Late last year, we recognized that we would need to adjust our budget. We also

recognized that based on our experience since opening, we needed to shift staff resources so that we could maximize our ability to respond to the community's needs. We engaged in conservative fiscal management by reducing the size of our budget and by spending our resources in areas that would have the greatest community impact. Our fiscal management has been sound. We now have a smaller and leaner budget in place that is sustainable in the short run and that will provide us with a stable foundation on which to build going forward.

The center has a broad mission, and fulfilling that mission requires consistent support from the community. The board and staff cannot do this alone. The center generates revenue from room rentals and office leases, but much of our funding must come from fundraising—that was always our expectation and plan. The center needs every member of the community to become a member of the center at a level meaningful for that person. People can contribute to the center through our Web site (www.sfcenter.org) or by picking up a pledge envelope at the center. We are in a transition, but we will get through it with the dedication and unending work of our board, staff, and volunteers.

Once we hire a new executive director—we have a number of stellar candidates—we will be in an even stronger position to take this organization to the next level.

Because of length limitations, we do not have enough space to respond fully to the many inaccuracies contained in the B.A.R. article. However, we will briefly correct a few of the most egregious errors. First, our bank has agreed to extend our balloon payment for another year. The B.A.R.'s reporting to

the contrary was inaccurate.

Second, the B.A.R.'s reporting of our bank debt fails to mention that two thirds of it was incurred to complete construction and had nothing to do with funding operations or spending "lavishly" on salaries. The center is meeting its debt obligations and will pay down the debt over time. We have not borrowed a dime in six months, and this speaks volumes about our prudent financial management.

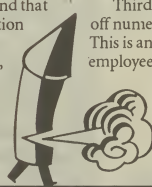
Third, the B.A.R. reported that we had laid off numerous staff or "forced" them to resign. This is an exaggeration. We have laid off a few employees, as part of our reorganization, but we also have hired for certain positions and promoted some employees. Moreover, several employees left of their own accord. It was inaccurate for the B.A.R. to report that all had either been fired or laid off.

Fourth, the B.A.R. reported that the center had incurred \$24,000 in telephone costs. However, the B.A.R. neglected to mention that the lion's share of these costs was for purchase and installation of an extensive telephone system for our 40,000 square foot building before we opened. We have not incurred \$24,000 in phone bills.

Finally, the B.A.R. criticizes the center for not providing its most recent audited financial statements. The B.A.R. has demanded that we allow its reporters to sit down at a computer with our internal accounting system, including detailed salary information about specific employees. We have declined that request and have been clear with the B.A.R. that, as we always have done, we will provide audited financial data as it becomes available.

We hope that, going forward, the B.A.R.'s coverage of the center will be more accurate and balanced. ▼

## Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Center deserves support

While the B.A.R. typically does a fantastic job of reporting and is a wonderful community resource, I think the piece on the center is too negative and not fair to all the people that are working so hard to make the center a viable part of the community [*"Fiscal woes engulf LGBT center," April 17*]. For years the GLBT community has needed a place besides the bars to congregate, celebrate our history, create and show art, party, and be ourselves. We finally have it in the center, and while things there aren't perfect, it deserves the community's support and fair reporting by the media recognizing the importance of this place in the world. I really hope the B.A.R. notes more of the positive things about the center in the future, how important it is to the community, and takes an active role in letting people know about all the good things that go on there.

Mike Tekulsky  
San Francisco

## Some transnys like binary system

In her last two columns, Gwen Smith has dealt with her dislike for the binary gender system [*"A taxing taxonomy," April 17* and *"What flavor is your restroom?" April 3*]. I would like to point out that not all people who are under the umbrella of transgender feel this way.

Personally, I am very comfortable with the binary gender system. I fit into the female slot quite nicely, and I consider myself a straight who likes her partners to fit squarely in the male slot.

As to the question, why does it matter? Well, for a lot of reasons. Like most of society, I am more comfortable with a binary gender system.

As to the question of what makes one a woman, the answer is very complex. I think it is a matter of one's mental gender, as well as how well one is accepted as a woman by society. Some people are very hard to accept as women. Others are very easy to accept.

Jennifer Usher  
San Francisco

## Unisex men's rooms

Rob Costin would stop indicating who should enter which restroom [*Mailstrom, April 17*]. Not so fast!

Females still need a women's room, as a refuge from males. Patriarchy hasn't vanished yet. But, in 21st century San Francisco, males no longer need such gendered protection. Our queer center should de-segregate its men's room. Let the door proclaim "unisex restroom: for anyone (including men)."

Tortuga Bi Liberty  
San Francisco

## Bathroom story provided context

I want to commend you for your report about our scientific paper recently published in *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes* [*"Study calls into question SF's gay bathhouse prohibition," April 10*]. Matthew S. Bajko's article did a good job describing the study results, as well as placing it in the context of our community.

Readers who may never read the study in *JAIDS* should be aware that the results presented from the study do not address either the civil liberties or drug risk concerns raised by Mr. Carrazza and Mr. Wilson, respectively. Perhaps more importantly, readers should know that Dr. Klausner's interpretation of the results is problematic. That interpretation requires over-interpreting a single statistic with very serious limitations (due to the unfortunate wording of the survey question that the statistic is based on), while at the same time ignoring the results of three other more reliable statistics that show no city differences. Nevertheless, the San Francisco policy appears to do no harm, i.e., nothing in the data suggested that the policy created higher-risk behavior among San Francisco men compared to men in other cities.

So the overall message from the study should be that the San Francisco policy, if it does anything at all, merely pushed risk behavior someplace else.

If the policy has any real harm, it appears to be that it keeps us engaged in this infernal debate, distracting us from efforts to develop trust, collaborations, and programs that might actually make a difference in reducing high-risk behavior and HIV transmission. Thus, the meeting between club managers and health officials, as reported in the April 3 issue of the B.A.R. [*"CA health officials enlist help of gay sex club owners"*], is a welcome example of the more useful direction our efforts should take.

William J. Woods  
UCSF, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies

## Syphilis campaign goes on

In the April 17 B.A.R., there was a letter from Randy Alfred "DPH should dump cartoon ads" regarding the miscalculation of the percent increase in the syphilis awareness advertisement of March 27, 2003, and the Healthy Penis campaign. The correct

number of early syphilis cases in 1999 was 44 and in 2002 was 491. This represents a 1,016% increase. We appreciate the identification of the error and are pleased that readers paid close attention to the advertisement. It is also important when reviewing statistics regarding syphilis the difference between "early cases" (cases of less than one year duration) and "total cases" (the sum of early cases and cases of more than one year duration).

The Healthy Penis campaign was designed to increase community awareness of the syphilis epidemic, improve knowledge about syphilis and promote syphilis testing. From street and clinic-based surveys, we know that 72 percent of gay men have seen the campaign compared with other SFDPH campaigns like Save Your Ass (28 percent) and Spring Cleaning (7 percent). This truly remarkable community penetration we believe is a result of the type and character of the advertising. In addition, persons who saw the campaign were more likely to know about the syphilis epidemic, modes of syphilis transmission, syphilis symptoms, and have been recently tested for syphilis. Those at highest risk for syphilis were the most likely to have been recently tested.

It is often difficult in public health awareness and educational efforts to see measurable and important outcomes at the population level. We are encouraged by these recent findings and plan to continue the campaign as long as it continues to remain effective at increasing syphilis awareness and education and is associated with increases in syphilis testing.

We are concerned about the continued increases in syphilis and encourage further community discussion about syphilis and effective prevention.

Jeffrey D. Klausner, MD, MPH, Director  
Charlotte Kent, MPH  
Division of STD Control  
Department of Public Health

## Funk editorial off base

Speaking as the queer man who organized much of the media coverage of Stephen Funk's decision to apply for conscientious objector status, I would like to respond to the rather intemperate tone and borderline red-baiting contained in Cynthia Laird's editorial "Stephen Funk's Folly" [*April 10*]. First, and foremost it was Stephen Funk who made the decision to emphasize his CO status over his sexual orientation. (Funk's CO application indicates his priorities. Funk states he is gay in a one-paragraph notation on page 5 of a 7-page document.) Hard as it may be for some to believe, Funk wanted to make sure that his objections to taking part in any war, let alone this particular one, were paramount. To put it bluntly, Funk considers being opposed to war much more important than his sexual orientation in the context of his military status. I know this because I talked to him about it.

As a matter of fact when I became a part of Funk's support network I raised the issue of highlighting his sexual orientation almost immediately, and was told in no uncertain terms by all those involved that his conscientious objector status was primary.

This is precisely what I explained to Ms. Laird, the B.A.R. editor when I contacted her in the first place. I specifically noted that Funk is gay knowing full well that a gay angle is essential to getting coverage in this paper. This fact was not downplayed. Why else would the B.A.R. have done the story if someone, namely me, had not informed them that Funk is gay? I made a determined effort to alert the queer media to this story and highlighted the fact that Funk is (A) one of the first COs in the Bush administration's war on the world and (B) that he is certainly the first gay man in this war to be a CO. That is not downplaying the issue!

As a queer reporter and activist throughout the AIDS epidemic, Queer Nation days, and civil rights struggle I find it deeply insulting to be accused of closeting a gay man. But I now work for a progressive organization that is queer friendly, rather than the other way round. Perhaps I should now expect to be red-baited by some mainstream gay and lesbian groups; a pity since the current gay liberation movement was born in the ferment of a decade steeped in opposition to another equally unjustified war.

As far as the "sin" of omission about DADT goes: Get over it. As far as Funk is concerned, opposing war is more important than opposing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." He is opposed to DADT, but he is also more opposed to the military en toto. So why should he prioritize his opposition to a half-baked policy that prohibits and allows queers in the military in the same breath?

I am sure that many other letter writers will address the unseemly and implicit accusations of cowardice and opportunism the editorial makes against Funk. I would just ask what is more sincere: Joining the Marines, acknowledging that you made a mistake and taking the most difficult avenue out, which could dog you for the rest of your life? Or taking the easy way out, going "Hey I'm gay, I don't wanna go to war," and leaving under DADT? Funk took the brave honorable path, which is more than can be said for the

next page ►

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## Mailstrom

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B.A.R.'s attempted character assassination.

Tim Kingston  
Communications Associate  
Global Exchange

### A personal decision

This letter is in response to the editorial and letters regarding Stephen Funk in the April 10 B.A.R.

Being a conscientious objector is a personal decision. It has no bearing on whether one is gay or straight. DADT is not part of the equation. If the intake system in the military were an honest and open one, Stephen Funk wouldn't have been allowed in. If the intake system were an honest and open one, and potential recruits were shown charred kids, destroyed families, mangled bodies, and the other catastrophic ephemera produced by war, well it seems like recruiters would be doing a bang-up job in getting only the most committed. But, the marketing, advertising, and PR for the armed forces stresses brotherhood, heroism, and being all you can be. The nitty-gritty manages to get lost, probably because it would interfere with recruitment.

I admire any decision that involves listening to one's conscience. Especially when you know it's going to piss people off and they are going to enjoy taking you and your decision apart. It takes some guts to do that.

What's the big deal about a 19-year-old that should've known better to begin with? Nineteen is still a kid. Kids make mistakes. Hell, adults make mistakes. A good role model, irrespective of sexual orientation, is one that listens to, and makes up his own heart and mind, no matter how late in the game, and acts on his or her conviction. I admire Stephen for choosing not to lean on the convenience of outing himself to simply make the situation go away.

Are we going to enforce a contract and require someone to go fight and kill simply because they signed on the dotted line somewhere? Having a conscience and acting on it should not be an imprisonable offense. Nor should a decision not to go along with an invasion and participate in killing be confused with conforming to a "pansy stereotype." That's just lazy, rigid thinking.

I say kudos to a kid of that age realizing his life and the lives of others are worth something.

Congrats, Stephen. There's more than one way of becoming a man.

Liam Passmore  
San Francisco

### 'Fearless' Funk

Your depiction of Stephen as naive and cowardly reinforces the homophobia and militarism plaguing our society and the world ("Stephen Funk's folly," April 10). Apparently, various "patriotic" B.A.R. readers are beating their chests and lining up to slam Stephen, or any service person, for seeking conscientious objector status.

Really, Funk's antiwar posture objecting to the killing of Iraqi people for oil is willful and brave. My father, a Korean War vet, allowed me to change my mind on enlisting because he knew the ramifications and the difficulty of making this decision as a youth. We should afford Stephen and others like him the same courtesy. Those who equate killing for the benefit of the rich and big business, regardless of sexual orientation, military service or so-called duty are misguided and precarious machos. It's the homeless and forgotten vets I identify with; those who were glorified in previous wars but spend the rest of their days questioning why they sacrificed so much.

Also, whether Stephen seeks CO status as an openly gay man is his business not anyone else's.

Your piece condemned Funk for not challenging the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, ostensibly supporting open queers in the military whilst unquestioningly backing U.S. war. Even as I, support queers' (and women's) right to serve freely and equally in the military, I know it's unlikely while we have a heterosexual, male-dominated, pro-war, pro-violence military.

Right on Stephen! You are a role model for being antiwar, gay, and fearless.

Moisés Montoya  
San Francisco

### Don't be 'Missin' Dean

Wayne F.'s recent piece criticizing former Vermont Governor Howard Dean's position on medical marijuana misses the point ("War winds down; Demo campaigns gear up," *Our Man Friday*, April 17). First of all as a physician, Dean is in favor of effective treatments and fair access to medical care for all Americans. He questions the efficacy of politicians, rather than medical professionals, making medical treatment issues. And Dean has stated that he's open to considering the medical pot issue.

The main point is this: Dean is neck-and-neck for the lead in the Democratic polls right now, has opposed

the war all along, and shows great promise and integrity as a possible challenger to Bush in '04. He's not perfect, no politician is, but he's head and shoulders above the other Democrats and can give Bush a hell of a run.

Besides, you think Bush is open to medical pot, or represents anything you stand for? Fuhgeddaboutit. Vote for Dean - he'll defeat the evil Bush regime!

Richard Marracq  
Redwood City, California

### Dean more open than Clinton, Bush

I'm disappointed that Wayne Friday mischaracterized former Vermont Governor Dean's position on medical marijuana, saying that he's a "staunch opponent." That's just not the case.

As a medical doctor, Dean brings a unique perspective to this and other healthcare issues. He has said that he wants to get politics out of medicine; personally, I could not agree more.

On the topic of marijuana, Dean is not prepared to endorse medicinal marijuana absent a scientific study confirming its safety and effectiveness. However, he has said in an interview with the *Nation* magazine that he will force the FDA to evaluate it like any other drug, and would support legalizing it for whatever use it might be scientifically evaluated for. Not exactly "staunch opposition," is it? It's certainly a more open-minded attitude than either the Clinton or Bush administrations, which have so far not allowed such a study to take place.

Of course, this policy decision - and thousands of others that affect us here in San Francisco - will only be possible when we achieve "regime change" in Washington. That, in turn, will only happen after we've openly debated the positions of the candidates running for the office. I hope you'll do your best in the future to report those positions accurately.

Will Easton  
San Francisco

### Time to gather up that porn

The fourth annual porn sale, a benefit for the San Francisco Prime Timers (the former G40 Plus Club) is coming soon. To have a successful sale and fundraiser, we need donations of porn to sell. Here is an opportunity to weed out your collection, eliminate things you don't really care for or want to use, make room for additions to your collection, do some spring cleaning and help a 30-year-old nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. During the sale, videos sell for \$3; books, magazines, and calendars sell for \$1; 8mm films for 50 cents; and toys like dildos and pumps, puzzles, posters, etc., are individually priced. The sale will take place on June 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the garage at 3507 23rd Street, between Valencia (San Jose) and Guerrero.

Donations are needed now. To make a donation, arrange for a pickup of about one or two items or a truck load, or for more information about the sale or the Prime Timers, call me at (415) 648-8678.

Arthur Hurwith  
San Francisco

### 'Concept' production misses mark

Kudos to Richard Dodds for pointing out, however subtly, in his review of ACT's current *The Constant Wife* that this interpretation of the play is not precisely what Somerset Maugham had in mind ("*Domestic affairs*," April 10).

Director Kyle Donnelly has turned the playwright's seldom produced but delightful comedy of manners into a raucous French farce, with many of its characters portrayed as buffoons rather than the believable human beings that Maugham created.

This may be highly enjoyable to some audiences, especially people who've never seen the play before. But Ethel Barrymore, Katharine Cornell, Ingrid Bergman, and other great actresses of the past (not to mention Maugham himself) would turn over in their graves if they could see what Donnelly has done to a literate and witty script which could stand well on its own without this director's misguided "concept."

In his last book, Alec Guinness said that he didn't mind concept productions of his classic plays but it worried him that young people seeing the play for the first time might think it's the only way that play should be done. That's what worries me about the ACT's current *The Constant Wife*.

Dean Goodman  
San Francisco

### Reflections owner will be missed

In all my years of living in San Francisco, I am well aware that there are special human beings. The passing of my dear friend, George Bankovich, the owner of Reflections bar on Polk Street, was sad news. He will always be a memory of happy times. He was a dedicated supporter of my legal career, and a true friend.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier II, Esq.  
San Francisco

## POLITICS

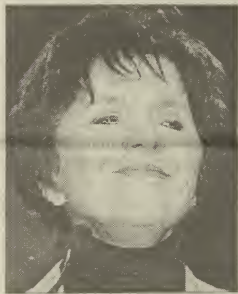
# Barbara Boxer off and running for a 3rd term

by Wayne Friday

At the same time a recent Field Poll released information revealing that former California Governor **Pete Wilson** is the early favorite with GOP voters among a list of possible Republicans to take on two-term U.S. Senator **Barbara Boxer** next year, the Boxer campaign was serving notice that the senator is herself off and running – hard – for a third term in November 2004.

The Boxer campaign reports she has raised \$1 million in the first three months of this year and has more than \$2 million in available cash for her upcoming re-election race. Boxer, who spent \$14 million to defeat Republican **Matt Fong** in 1998, is actually raising money faster than she did six years ago.

Boxer, a former House member whose political base is Marin County (she once served as a supervisor there), says she will hold at least 150 fundraising events this year alone to prepare for what she expects to be a "very costly, but successful" re-election race.



Senator Barbara Boxer

Among her potential opponents are three wealthy Republicans: 2002 gubernatorial nominee **Bill Simon** and Representatives **Darrell Issa** of Vista and **Doug Ose** of Woodland. Issa lost to Fong in the 1998 GOP Senate primary after having spent more than \$9 million of his family money, while Simon put more than \$11 million of his family fortune into his unsuccessful race last year against Democratic Governor **Gray Davis**.

Other Republicans reportedly considering a run at Boxer's seat include Representatives **Mary Bono** of Palm Springs and **George Radanovich** of Fresno, U.S. Treasurer **Rosario Marin** of Huntington Park, former Los Altos Hills Mayor **Toni Casey**, and conservative Los Angeles talk show host **Dennis Prager**.

While even some of his GOP supporters feel that Wilson – who served as a member of the state Legislature, was San Diego mayor, and served eight years in the U.S. Senate before becoming governor – would indeed face an uphill race against the hard-campaigning Boxer, longtime political associates say that the former governor is "indeed taking a look" at possibly entering the GOP primary next year, and reportedly has said he would "love to knock off the liberal Boxer." Since Wilson left the governor's office in 1999, he has served on numerous corporate boards and is reportedly making a lucrative living as a private citizen.

As for the Democrats and the



DPW's urban forestry crew with Supervisor Bevan Dufty, center, DPW Director Ed Lee, right, Deputy Director Mohammed Nuru, second from right, and Tom Carter, head of urban forestry, second from left.

Boxer campaign, they'd love it to have Wilson as their opponent. Wilson is still remembered for having campaigned hard in 1994 for Proposition 187, which was aimed at illegal immigrants, won, and was later gutted by the courts. Wilson came to be identified – fairly or otherwise – as being anti-immigrant and since that election, only two Republicans have been elected to statewide office as more and more Latino voters, a rapidly growing voter base in the state, have turned to Democratic candidates.

Wilson also carries political baggage in that it is his signature that is on the 1996 energy deregulation bill that is blamed for opening the way to rolling blackouts, constant power crunches, and soaring electricity bills that have plagued the state. Though Davis took loads of heat during his own re-election race last year for the state's energy problems, even most Republicans point to Wilson as the man who started it all when he signed the controversial deregulation bill.

Boxer should be the early favorite against any Republican Senate nominee next year; she expects to raise and spend at least \$20 million and some of the potential GOP candidates will surely drop out (Ose says he will decide within the next month or so) before the March 2004 filing date. The race for the state's U.S. Senate seat will be an expensive one, with the balance of power in the Senate possibly at stake.

## Politics and people

This might come as somewhat good news for **Angela Alioto** and perhaps not so good news for **Gavin Newsom**, but my City Hall contacts tell me that Supervisor **Tony Hall** is actually starting to believe himself when he tells one and all that "many, many people" are urging him to run for mayor, and the conservative supe is expected to announce within weeks. One can almost hear Alioto now: "Run, Tony Run", can't you? (The premise being that a Hall candidacy would draw many votes from Newsom).

Actually, I'm surprised that most of the supes aren't jumping into this one – it would be a way of getting off the board and not having to listen to that pompous windbag **Jake McGoldrick** babble on endlessly.

The May issue of *San Francisco* magazine carries a feature story on Deputy City Attorney **Kamala Harris**'s race for district attorney entitled "Can this woman beat Hallinan?" More and more people I talk to think she can; indeed, how often does a career public defender praise a candidate for district attorney? **Peter Keane**, the respected former longtime chief deputy public defender, now the dean at Golden Gate University Law School, said in the *San Francisco* story: "The bottom line on Terence is he's a good person but he's impulsive, and he doesn't put professional issues paramount. He took a solid prosecutor's office and ran it into the ground." After eight years of Hallinan's shoot-from-the-lip style, Harris's think-first response to crisis is exactly what San Francisco needs, Keane said.

Congrats are surely in order to the possible next governor of California, Attorney General **Bill Lockyer** (he's already formed a committee to raise money for 2006) who last week married **Nadia Maria Davis**, 31, an attorney from Orange County. It was the third marriage for Lockyer, 61, the first for Davis, and the happy newlyweds are already expecting a baby later this summer.

Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco) followed actor **Woody Harrelson** to the podium and addressed about 700 people at last weekend's annual National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws confab at the Hyatt Regency and the snapping jokes reportedly kept the crowd roaring.

The demolition of the Central Freeway has provided Department of Public Works urban forestry staff with the opportunity to trim and maintain 48 palm trees in the Market Street medium between Castro and Valencia streets. Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** was instrumental in making sure the palms and other street trees receive adequate attention. During the freeway demolition, Muni overhead lines were shut down last weekend, allowing the forestry crew to work on the Canary Island date palms, which were planted as part of a Muni project in the early 1990s.

The state budget crisis must truly be serious (some claim it's beyond possible repair) – Governor **Gray Davis**, to his credit, has asked

page 11 ►

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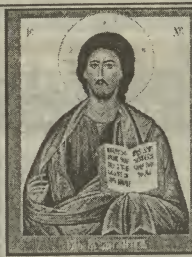
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# Teaching the value of difference

by Paula Martinac

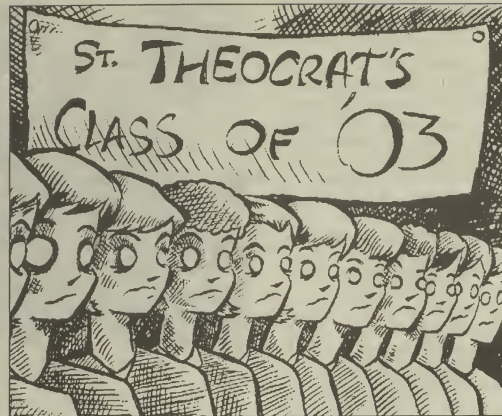
When U.S. Secretary of Education Roderick Paige recently praised Christian schools because they provide strong, set value systems, critics rushed to condemn his comments for treading dangerously on the separation of church and state and for seeming to disrespect the diversity of public schools. But, in fact, by observing that "many different kids with many different kinds of values" pose a challenge to the quality of public education, Paige was simply stating a fact. Difference is messy, and uniformity is often more efficient. However, a fluid value system in our schools ultimately serves young people — and society — best.

There's a reason religious schools are often academically stronger than public ones — when everyone thinks in pretty much the same way and doesn't question the prevailing value system, institutions can run like well-oiled machines. It's no wonder religious schools — and the vouchers that would help finance their tuition — are growing increasingly popular among parents upset about the state of public education.

In his comments, however, Paige neglected to point out that schools with set value systems — and the educations they provide — may be flawed in another way. Many religious schools put forth a narrow, too-neat vision of society, thereby fostering racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, sexism, and xenophobia. Southern Baptist schools, for example, certainly could be singled out for instilling strong values in their students. The trouble is, those values include teaching that Jews should convert to Christianity, wives must be subservient to their husbands, and gays are on the road to hell.

I myself am a product of a religious education. The Catholic schools I attended were technically of high quality and grounded in a value system Paige would call strong. But the religious "values" of those schools also inadvertently taught kids to be wary of — and ultimately look down on — anyone who wasn't just like them.

In my elementary and secondary schools, for example, almost everyone was Catholic, white, and middle-class. There



Christine Smith

was one black girl and also one Protestant girl in my high school, and they were treated like pariahs. I myself was ostracized by some classmates because my father had a blue-collar job. Until I went to college, I never met anyone who was Jewish or who had not been born and raised in this country. Granted, this was several years before "multiculturalism" became an educational catch phrase.

But the problem continues to the present day: My nephew, who is Korean-American and graduated from Catholic high school in 2002, experienced persistent racism from his white classmates, who were in the majority at his school and viewed "the Chink" with suspicion.

I'm not suggesting that problems like racism and homophobia occur only in religious schools. But I do think that schools with religious value systems have no compelling reason to approach difference as something we must all, at the very least, learn to live with. It's not a coincidence that it was in public and private secondary schools, not in religious ones, that students were recently able — if they so desired — to invoke a "day of silence" in support of gays and lesbians.

Unfortunately, difference in general isn't something the Bush administration's education policy is anxious to emphasize or work with. The "No Child Left Behind Act" puts heavy emphasis on rote, standardized learning in basic reading and math, to the detriment of other aspects of a well-rounded education. Writing, his-

tory, and the arts — the very subjects in which critical-thinking skills and appreciation for a wide variety of viewpoints are most often honed — may end up taking a back seat when schools are required to "teach to the test."

And what happens when kids with one-dimensional educations grow up? Consider the experience of a friend of mine, who spent a year teaching art history at a large farm-belt university, where many of the students had had strict religious upbringings and educations. When she assigned readings with differing viewpoints, one senior asked incredulously, "You mean there's more than one way to look at things?" That kind of thinking stands as one of the major stumbling blocks to achieving full social justice for many people in this country.

Ideally, education should take students beyond the uniformity of one set value system. Our schools should be teaching that societies don't remain static, although we may not always like the changes that occur, and that traditional ideas, while fine for many, are not the only way to view the world. Our secretary of education would do well to read the works of black lesbian poet Audre Lorde, who once wrote that, instead of viewing our differences as "insurmountable barriers," we should develop the tools necessary to use them as "a springboard for creative change." ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books and editor in chief of *Q Syndicate*. She can be reached care of this publication or at [PMcolumn@aol.com](mailto:PMcolumn@aol.com).

## Most lesbians had sex with men, study says

by Ed Walsh

The largest survey of its kind of lesbians and bisexual women in the United Kingdom revealed that 85 percent of more than 1,200 women surveyed had a sexual history with men.

The study was released last week in the medical journal, *Sexually Transmitted Infections*.

The first sexual experience of lesbian and bisexual British women tended to be with a man, at an average age of 18, progressing to first sex with a woman three years later, on

average. One in four lesbians and almost a third of bisexual women had been pregnant, the report found.

Those under 30 were almost twice as likely to describe themselves as bisexual as women over 30. In all, 101 of the 1,200 gay and bisexual women surveyed described themselves as bisexual.

The average number of sexual partners in the preceding year was one, the survey showed. Among the 328 women asked about safer sex practices, a third who had intercourse with men never used a condom. And more than 85 percent of lesbians engaging in oral

sex with other women did not use dental dams, while one in five of those sharing sex toys said they did not wash them before sharing.

The authors point out that research shows that, although uncommon, women can pass on sexually transmitted infections to other women, including herpes, trichomoniasis, papilloma virus, syphilis, HIV, and bacterial vaginosis. The authors added that the demand for specialist lesbian and bisexual health services in London and other U.K. cities indicates that mainstream services are failing to meet the needs of these groups. ▼

## HISTORY LESSON

# Who are the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence?

by Liz Highleyman

April 1979 (24 years ago this month): The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence make their first appearance in San Francisco.

The American Life League condemns them as "sodomites who dress up as Catholic nuns." Political punk band Chumbawamba praises them: "The Sisters drag sexual politics onto the streets, and the streets are all the brighter and safer for it." And lesbian author Camille Paglia wants to be one of them: "How I long to belong to their troupe, which seems to have a *commedia dell'arte* flair." Over the past two decades, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have evolved from their roots as a few gay men in San Francisco into hundreds of adherents worldwide who have taken a vow to "promulgate universal joy and expiate stigmatic guilt."

The Sisters made their first appearance in San Francisco the day before Easter in 1979. Bored with the "Castro clone" look, three gay men donned full nuns' habits and went out into the streets of the Castro as Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch, Sister Missionary Position, and Sister Roz Erection. Their expedition also took them to the wealthy Pacific Heights neighborhood and the local nude beach at Land's End. The original Sisters' habits came from a convent of nuns in Iowa, who a few years earlier had been persuaded to lend some old garments to a drag theater troupe.

Sister Vicious and Sister Missionary Position, joined by two newcomers who had attended the first international Radical Faeries gathering that fall and encountered more men with "the calling," decided to formalize the group. They adopted the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence name in late 1979, and Sister Hysterectoria designed a new habit and headgear — which came to be known as "ear brassieres" — based on the costume of a 14th century Flemish lady-in-waiting. The Sisters made their official debut in March 1980 at a San Francisco antinuclear protest and later at the city's Gay Freedom Day parade in June.

With the advent of AIDS, the Sisters adopted a more serious community mission. In 1982, Sister Florence Nightmare and Sister Roz Erection, both real-life registered nurses, helped create "Play Fair," the first explicit safer-sex

pamphlet. Funds to produce the brochure were raised through the sale of ashes from the Barracks, a notorious bathhouse that burned down in a 1981 fire on Folsom Street, the heart of San Francisco's gay leather district. Also that year the Sisters produced the first-ever AIDS fundraiser — a dog show emceed by actress Shirley MacLaine — and in May 1983 they helped organize the first AIDS candlelight march and vigil.

Even as some members where lost to AIDS, the group continued to grow through recruitment of new nuns. Expanding beyond San Francisco, new orders of Sisters arose across the United States and around the globe. The first overseas outpost was established in Sydney, Australia in 1981. The second U.S. chapter, Seattle's Abbey of St. Joan, was started in 1987. Following a 1991 "evangelical pilgrimage" to Europe by Sister Vicious and other nuns, new orders sprung up in Paris and Berlin.

Perhaps the greatest boost to the group's visibility came when Sister Boom Boom threw her wimple into the ring for the 1982 San Francisco Board of Supervisors race, running on the "Nun of the Above" ticket. She garnered more than 23,000 votes and came in ninth out of 22 candidates (though only the top five won seats).

As the Sisters' public profile grew, so did the controversy that swirled around them. In 1987 they held a public exorcism to mark Pope John Paul II's visit to San Francisco, earning them a place on the Vatican's official list of heretics. In 1997, congressional conservatives blocked President Clinton's appointment of James Hormel as the first gay American ambassador, citing a film that showed Hormel chuckling as the Sisters passed by him during a Gay Pride Parade. And in April 1999, outraged Catholics demanded that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors cancel a permit allowing the Sisters to close Castro Street for a celebration of their 20th anniversary on Easter Sunday. But the party went on as planned — complete with the traditional "Hunky Jesus" contest — and the publicity helped draw some 5,000 revelers.

Although the Sisters began as a group of gay men, they now include people of all genders and sexual orientations. What unites them is their devotion to community service. Over the years the Sisters have raised and distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars

to numerous LGBT, AIDS, and social-justice organizations and projects.

While the official Sister notes that many of the early nuns were "ordained on the spot from barstools in the Castro," newcomers today must pass through the ranks of Aspirant, Postulant, and Novice before becoming a fully professed Sister. "A lot of people come to us thinking that we're just a bunch of fun and a bunch of

drag queens," says Sister Phyllis Stein the Fragrant. "[But] it's a way of life even when we are not in habit." ▼

Liz Highleyman is a freelance writer and editor who has written widely on health, sexuality, and politics. She can be reached care of this publication or at [PastOut@black-rose.com](mailto:PastOut@black-rose.com).

## Suggested reading

Thompson, Mark (editor). 1994. *Long Road to Freedom: The Advocate History of the Gay and Lesbian Movement* (St. Martin's Press).

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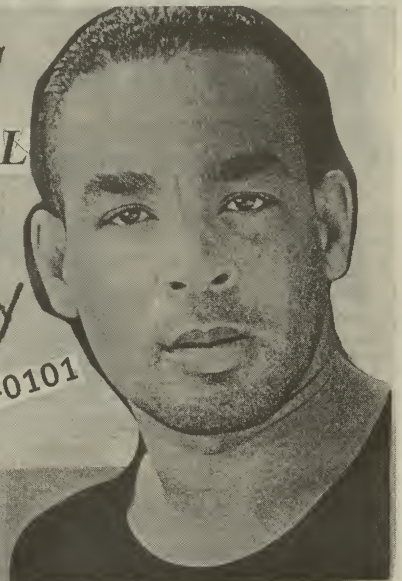
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## Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

his aides that make more than \$60,000 annually to take a 5 percent pay cut; in addition, according to the *San Jose Mercury News*, more than 500 other Davis-appointed state employees have voluntarily agreed to take pay cuts. State Senate President John Burton (D-San Francisco), like the governor, is taking a 10 percent cut in his paycheck, but has not asked other legislators and staffers, to do likewise. The *Mercury News* said that if all legislators and their staff followed the governor's lead, they could save the state an additional \$3.5 million (but then, again, that's a drop in the bucket when we're supposedly talking a \$35 billion deficit). In bad

times throughout the years, legislative leaders — and voters — have taken different approaches at keeping a handle on spending, such as Proposition 140, which voters passed in 1990 that forced lawmakers to immediately slash their budgets by one-third and lay off dozens of aides, saving millions. The bad side of Proposition 140, however, was that it also imposed term limits on state legislators, a lousy idea if ever there was one.

Congratulations to longtime civil rights activist and out lesbian Laurie McBride, who was recently appointed to the position under secretary of state in the office of California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley.

And you think celebrity endorsements are to be taken lightly

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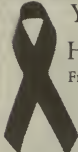
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## Bees and the bees

by Jane Warner

**F**riends Elementary School, 117 Diamond, April 3, 10:25 a.m.: As a teacher of the elementary school was conducting a morning kindergarten class, she looked out the window and saw two men having sex by the dumpster. One of the men stood behind the other with his pants unzipped gyrating his hips as he reached in front of his partner and made a pumping motion with his hands. Shocked, the teacher stood in front of the windows trying to divert the attention of the young children while she summoned the school administrator to call 911. Police soon arrived and detained the men as they walked out of the parking lot. The suspects, ages 31 and 37, were arrested for engaging in lewd acts, loitering around school premises, annoying children, and possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

### Low blow

**Safeway, 2020 Market Street, April 11, 3:41 p.m.:** While waiting in line to buy groceries, a man suddenly had a seizure. As he fell to the floor of the grocery store, his wallet fell from his hand and landed next to him. A security officer responded and paramedics soon arrived, treating the victim. Once able to stand, however, the

man looked around for his wallet and could not find it. The security guard searched the area and asked if anyone had seen the black leather bi-fold, which contained three credit cards, the man's driver's license, and \$100 in 20s. It was nowhere to be found. There are no known witnesses.

### Open season

**100 block of Hartford, April 11, 2:51 p.m.:** While upstairs in his home, a resident clicked his automatic garage opener which opened the garage door. After a while, he went downstairs to put some things away. When he walked into the garage he noticed some items he had stored on a shelf were now sitting on the hood of his car. Suspicious that someone may be inside the garage, the resident looked around and then walked to the back of the garage to a small storage room. When the resident looked into the room, he saw a man crouched down in a corner. "What are you doing here?" the resident asked. The suspect did not answer but quickly got up and pushed past the resident and walked out of the garage. The resident tried to hold onto the alleged burglar but the suspect broke free and walked northbound on Hartford toward 18th Street. The resident called 911 and police found the intruder a short distance away. The 20-year-old

suspect was taken to Mission Station and booked for burglary and an outstanding \$5,000 warrant.

### Break up

**Uncle Bert's Place, 4086 18th, April 13, 1:53 p.m.:** A customer told the bartender that another patron was drunk and harassing him in the bathroom. The bartender went to investigate and found the suspect obviously intoxicated. Upon telling the man that he was "cut off" and needed to leave, the suspect became enraged. "Fuck you, I'm not leaving, go ahead and call the cops." Hearing the commotion, the bar owner approached and told the man he needed to leave. Without warning, the suspect picked up a large glass beer mug and threw it at their heads. Both the owner and bartender ducked in time, but the flying missile shattered the mirror behind them. The assailant then left the bar, screaming profanities. As he exited, he kicked the front window with his foot, breaking it. The owner followed the man outside and watched him go into A Different Light Bookstore. He was able to flag down a passing police officer, and the 31-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked for aggravated assault, criminal threats, and malicious mischief to property. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.

## Attorney general appeals Knoller decision

by Ed Walsh

**A**n attorney for Sharon Smith, the woman whose partner, Diane Whipple, was mauled to death by dogs two years ago, is praising the state attorney general's office for its appeal of a judge's decision to throw out the second-degree murder conviction for one of the dogs' caretakers, Marjorie Knoller.

"It's a well-founded appeal," Michael Cardoza told the Bay Area Reporter last week. "[San Francisco Superior Court] Judge James Warren exceeded his authority."

Cardoza said that Warren was wrong when he said that in order to be convicted of murder, Knoller would have had to have known her dogs would likely have killed

someone at the time of the attack on Whipple.

In court papers filed with the First District Court of Appeal, state Attorney General Bill Lockyer said that to support a murder charge, a defendant only needs to be aware that serious injury would result from their conduct.

Donald Horgan, a lawyer for Knoller, didn't return the B.A.R.'s call by press time but he told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that Warren used the proper standard and acted within the law in his role as a "13th juror."

Knoller and her husband, Robert Noel, were convicted last year of manslaughter and keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being. Knoller was also convicted of second-degree murder but Warren later tossed that

verdict out. Both were given four-year sentences and with credit for time served and good behavior, both likely will be released by this summer.

Peter Keane, dean of Golden Gate University Law School, told reporters that he thinks there's virtually no chance that the appeals court will reinstate the second-degree conviction. Keane, a former San Francisco public defender, has been closely following the case and has always maintained that the second-degree charge was out of line.

In an exclusive interview from prison before news of the appeal broke, Noel told the B.A.R. that he is optimistic that he and his wife will eventually be cleared of all charges once their case goes through the appeals process. ▼

### CDC

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vention work they already do.

"Is this a newly funded initiative by the CDC or is it just simply a way of reducing funding all together? Is it sort of a stealth move to eradicate prevention funds? It is a big question," said Evans.

Tom Coates, director of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California at San Francisco, said the government should be supporting both sides of the prevention equation and funding efforts directed at people who are HIV-positive as well as those

who are HIV-negative.

"I think there is concern. The concern is this may mean a shift away from prevention models we have been working on that we know are effective," said Coates. "The move to prevention for positives is good. But is does not mean we should do away with the old prevention models we have found to be effective, nor does it mean to do away with counseling and informed consent."

The CDC announced two other new initiatives last week: making HIV testing a routine part of medical care and creating new models for diagnosing HIV infections outside medical settings. ▼

## COMMUNITY NEWS

# High court won't hear Rosenkrantz case

by Ed Walsh

The U.S. Supreme Court slammed a door this week on Robert Rosenkrantz, the gay prisoner who killed a schoolmate who physically attacked him and later outed him to his father. The high court was asked by Rosenkrantz's attorneys to overturn a California Supreme Court ruling last December that gave Governor Gray Davis the green

light to continue with his strict anti-parole policy. Davis once vowed to block the parole of all convicted killers. Since first taking office more than four years ago, he has allowed parole for just four out of nearly 200 inmates who were ordered freed by his parole board. The board only approves parole for about 1 percent of eligible candidates.

On Monday, April 21, the Supreme Court decided, without comment, not to hear the

Rosenkrantz case. Following the decision, Rosenkrantz's attorney, Rowan Klein, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he hopes Davis will have a change of heart.

"I am cautiously optimistic that Governor Davis will follow the law and approve the decision of his appointed parole board," Klein said.

The parole board first ordered Rosenkrantz freed in 1996 but it later reversed itself. In 2000, under court order, the parole

board approved Rosenkrantz's freedom but Davis blocked it. On two separate occasions, Rosenkrantz was ordered to pack his belongings and prepare to leave prison before being told at the last minute that Davis halted his parole.

In the wake of this week's Supreme Court decision, Klein said that he plans to file an appeal with the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles.

Klein is also fighting for the

parole of Mark Smith, the other gay inmate who is at the center of California's parole debate. The Court of Appeal in Los Angeles is scheduled to hear arguments in his case May 20.

Smith and Rosenkrantz were convicted of second-degree murder for unrelated homicides in Los Angeles County in 1985. According to court records, Smith was with another man who shot and drowned the victim in a dispute over cocaine. ▼

## Birthday bash to benefit lesbian health center

by Matthew S. Bajko

As she celebrates her 50th birthday this weekend, Betty Sullivan has turned the occasion into a party benefiting the Lesbian Health Research Center.

Sullivan is the founder of the popular e-mail announcement service, Betty's List, and its parent company, Sullivan Communications Inc., a media and public relations group based in San Francisco. Her database is a who's who of the Bay Area LGBT community, and thousands of queer Bay Area residents receive her daily announcements about community events.

A Castro resident, Sullivan decided to throw a star-studded fête

at the LGBT Community Center to ring in her fifth decade and has turned to her numerous friends to help with the bash. Performers lined up include the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the Dixieland Band of the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Freedom Band, author Jewelle Gomez, and DJ Page Hodel.

The event aims to raise funds for the Lesbian Health Research Center, which was launched in 1999 and is part of the Institute of Health and Aging at the University of California at San Francisco. The center promotes research and serves as a resource on the health and well-being of lesbians, bisexual women, transgender individuals, and their families.

With lesbian health often over-

looked by the mainstream medical establishment, the founders of the health center have fought to bring lesbian health information out of the closet and into the hands of community members and healthcare providers. But the center has yet to find a permanent funding source and operates on donations.

So in stepped Sullivan with her idea of using her birthday as a fundraiser for the center.

"She's put us out there and gotten us some visibility," said Sue Dibble, a co-founder and co-director of the health center. "For lesbians, it is important they know they can go to our Web site and get information based on science and not just on opinion."

Already, Sullivan's promotion of the health center is bringing in pledges of support from the community. Jody Cole, co-producer of



Betty Sullivan

the Hopland Women's Festival held annually in Ukiah and a longtime supporter of local LGBT causes, has agreed to make a \$10,000 donation.

"I am honored to support the Lesbian Health Research Center in this way," said Cole. "This resource is simply an idea whose time has come. I call on all members of our community to join me in making a gift to help establish this important center devoted uniquely and specifically to lesbian health."

Sullivan's 50th birthday party benefit will be held from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street.

Tickets cost \$50 and a silent and live auction will be held to raise money for the health center. Lesbian-owned Olivia Cruises has donated an exclusive Thanksgiving cruise for two to the beautiful Leeward Islands, valued at \$5,000, for the top item in the auction.

Additional information about the birthday benefit can be found at [www.bettyslist.com](http://www.bettyslist.com). ▼

### Suspect freed

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they lived. Flagler's neighbors at the residential hotel said that since Neal was released from jail in February, he allegedly beat her daily.

Hammer said he hoped the case would focus attention on the issue of domestic violence in the LGBT community. The prosecutor stressed the importance for victims not to be afraid to report abuse and the importance for the police department to take LGBT domestic violence as seriously as it takes violence among heterosexual couples.

Hammer is openly gay. He became one of the best-known prosecutors in the country as the result of his work prosecuting the infamous dog-mauling case.

Flagler was released from jail on Monday, April 21. She returned to her hotel and did not respond to the B.A.R.'s request for an interview.

The hotel manager, Karen Hartje, told the B.A.R. that Flagler could be evicted because of the hotel's strict policy against violence. Hartje added that the decision would be made by her superiors and that she didn't know whether an exception could be made because of the issue of self-defense.

Like others in the hotel, Hartje witnessed the black eyes and the other effects of Neal's alleged routine beatings of Flagler. The manager and other hotel residents said they couldn't persuade Flagler to leave him. Hartje said she asked Flagler directly why she stayed with him.

"All she would say is that she loved him," the manager said. ▼

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# Pride adds Marga Gomez; parade starts early this year

by Zak Szymanski

Celebrities keep flocking to add their presence to the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade and Celebration. Out lesbian comedian and actress Marga Gomez will march with the parade as a celebrity grand marshal, the Pride Committee announced last week, returning to the city where she made her stand-up comedy debut, and joining celebrity grand marshal Armistead Maupin in the 33rd annual celebration, aptly themed, "You've gotta give them hope."

Gomez, who made herself known through venues like Josie's Cabaret and Valencia Rose, is now recognized throughout the world for her performances on HBO, Showtime, and Comedy Central, as well as her live shows off-Broadway and internationally. She also appears in *Laughing Matters*, a new documentary premiering at the 2003 San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

"I escaped to San Francisco when I was a baby dyke. The LGBT community here became my haven, my family, and my mentors," Gomez said in a statement about her Pride grand marshal honor. "What I do and who I am is because of the 20 years I lived and loved in San Francisco."

Her San Francisco roots and unwavering commitment to di-

versity and visibility made her a natural choice for a grand marshal title, said Pride President Joey Cain.

"In a year when we're highlighting how the San Francisco LGBT community has given people hope, Marga is perfect," said Cain. "She started out here developing her unique style of queer flavored comedy and has since gone on to export it to the rest of the world, with irreverent and hysterical success, I might add."

Additional grand marshals – chosen by the community at large as well as the Pride board and a select committee of past honorees – will be announced early next month.

Once they are chosen, all the grand marshals – and everyone

else, for that matter – will be on the parade route a little sooner than usual; Pride has announced that the Sunday parade will begin 30 minutes earlier this year.

The new 10 a.m. start time, said Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington, will be a permanent change in an effort to make the event run more smoothly, with fewer gaps between marching contingents.

The infamous parade "gaps" – the subject of more than a few complaints over the years – will also be tightened by the addition of "halftime entertainment" at major intersections as well as more than two dozen "Close the Gap" monitors, who will chaperone their contingent and five others to speed up or slow down the

pace as necessary.

"Starting the parade at 10 a.m. will tighten the parade and will ultimately make the event more enjoyable for everyone involved – spectators and participants alike," said Witherington. "It will also give folks more time to enjoy the celebration at the Civic Center."

The earlier start time also means that the parade's broadcast will begin at 10 a.m.; this year the televised event will be aired on KRON, channel 4.

This year's celebration, with a theme that honors the legendary words from the city's first gay elected official, the late Harvey Milk, will be held over the weekend of June 28 and 29. More information is available at [www.sfpride.org](http://www.sfpride.org). ▼



Comedian Marga Gomez



Actor Harvey Fierstein

## Gay radio goes national

by Bob Roehr

The first national radio station aimed at gays and lesbians began broadcasting on April 14. OUTQ is part of a satellite broadcast operation available to those with a special receiver who pay a monthly fee. It also is available as streaming audio over the

Internet. It is one of a hundred "streams" or channels provided by the company Sirius.

OUTQ "is the first around-the-clock news, talk, and music" programming for the LGBT community, said Larry Rebich during an April 15 telephone news conference. The company felt that the community was "largely underserved" by current options and it aims to fill that niche with "the most diverse content possible." The operation is based in New York City.

The format is primarily that of talk radio, with live programming about 15-hours a day beginning at 6 a.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday and rebroadcasts at night and on weekends. Among the hosts are columnist and author Michelangelo Signorile, and Wayne Besen, former spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign.

"Our stories have been missing [from the airwaves] until today," Joan Garry said during the conference call. She is the executive director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, an organization that works to promote fair coverage of the community in the media.

She called OUTQ "an opportunity to demonstrate just how diverse the community is." We are "a microcosm of the larger society, with a twist."

"They really are very funny, those heterosexuals," said another news conference participant, author and actor Harvey Fierstein. He was referring to current broadcast programs. "But there is no place to turn on our commu-

nity. We have no town square."

He said the *New York Times* is written as if everyone reading it "is a white, male heterosexual." He would like to see greater coverage of things such as the fight for marriage and adoption rights in Connecticut, where he now lives.

Fierstein called OUTQ a huge opportunity to create that forum among what is estimated to be an LGBT community of some 15 million. "But I don't know this will happen," he said.

One of the strengths of radio is that it preserves privacy of those who would not or could not buy a magazine or newspaper to learn more of the community.

One drawback to making this all come true is the limited availability of Sirius' programs. While some new cars come equipped with a receiver for satellite radio, retrofitting an older car or purchasing a stand-alone receiver for your home can cost about \$200.

Furthermore, the monthly fee, similar to that for cable TV, is \$12.95. That does bring access to a hundred different channels of music and talk with digital sound clarity, many of which are commercial-free.

Rival XM Satellite Radio, based in Washington, D.C., got out of the gate earlier and already has a subscriber base of half a million. Many analysts believe that there is room for only one satellite broadcast operation in the market.

Rebich said their market analysis points to OUTQ selling "a sizable number of radios ... in the tens of thousands," though he declined to be more specific. ▼

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### Assembly passes

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of support for the bill, easily achieved through the click of a mouse at [www.calcape.org](http://www.calcape.org), or through the Lambda Letters Project at [www.lambdaleters.org](http://www.lambdaleters.org).

Boyce Hinman, chief lobbyist of the Lambda Letters Project, noted that the group has been pushing for this legislation since 1998.

"This year the members and friends of the Lambda Letters Project have delivered over 9,500 letters and e-mails to the Assem-

by in support of the bill," said a statement from Hinman, who vowed that Lambda Letters will continue "to deluge the Legislature and the governor with letters in support of the bill."

As for Leno, he will continue to emphasize the simple message that "everyone deserves a chance at the American dream."

"This bill will ensure that all Californians, regardless of their gender, are protected from discrimination," said Leno, "keeping them in their homes and employed and hopefully, treated with the respect and dignity all individuals deserve." ▼

30-50%  
of HIV+ men have  
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### Restore your testosterone with easy-to-use AndroGel®

Fortunately you can replace testosterone with AndroGel which delivers natural testosterone in a gel that you simply rub into your skin once a day – no patches or injections. As it's absorbed through your skin, AndroGel treats hypogonadism by restoring your testosterone to its normal range.

**Indication:** AndroGel is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone, such as primary hypogonadism or hypogonadotropic hypogonadism.



#### Safety Information:

- Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast, or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.<sup>3</sup>
- The most frequent adverse events reported by ≥5% of patients associated with the consistent use of AndroGel after 30 months follow-up in a controlled trial (n=93) included lab test abnormal, acne, prostate disorder and application site reaction.<sup>4</sup>

**Please see accompanying brief summary of important safety and prescribing information.**

**Ask your doctor if AndroGel is right for you.**

**[www.androgel.com](http://www.androgel.com)**

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## INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AndroGel® is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone:

1. Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral torsion, orchitis, vanishing testis syndrome, orchiectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone levels and gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.
2. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—idiopathic gonadotropin or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low testosterone serum levels but have gonadotropins in the normal or low range.

AndroGel® has not been clinically evaluated in males under 18 years of age.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.

AndroGel® is not indicated for use in women, has not been evaluated in women, and must not be used in women.

Pregnant women should avoid skin contact with AndroGel® application sites in men. Testosterone may cause fetal harm. In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of a pregnant woman, the general area of contact on the woman should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

AndroGel® should not be used in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients, including testosterone USP that is chemically synthesized from soy.

## WARNINGS

1. Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17-alpha-alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with serious hepatic adverse effects (peliosis hepatis, hepatic neoplasms, cholestatic hepatitis, and jaundice). Peliosis hepatis can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Long-term therapy with testosterone enanthate, which elevates blood levels for prolonged periods, has produced multiple hepatic adenomas. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.
2. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
3. Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy. In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility and Laboratory Tests).
4. Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.
5. Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.
6. The treatment of hypogonadal men with testosterone esters may potentiate sleep apnea in some patients, especially those with risk factors such as obesity or chronic lung diseases.

## PRECAUTIONS

Transfer of testosterone to another person can occur when vigorous skin-to-skin contact is made with the application site (see Clinical Studies). The following precautions are recommended to minimize potential transfer of testosterone from AndroGel®-treated skin to another person:

- Patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel®.
- Patients should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried (e.g., a shirt).
- In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of another person, the general area of contact on the other person should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water. Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

## General

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following:

- Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis.
- Any nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.
- Breathing disturbances, including those associated with sleep.

## Information for Patients

Advise patients to carefully read the information brochure that accompanies each carton of 30 AndroGel® single-use packets.

## Advise patients of the following:

- AndroGel® should not be applied to the scrotum.
- AndroGel® should be applied once daily to clean, dry skin.
- After application of AndroGel®, it is currently unknown for how long showering or swimming should be delayed. For optimal absorption of testosterone, it appears reasonable to wait at least 5-6 hours after application prior to showering or swimming. Nevertheless, showering or swimming after just 1 hour should have a minimal effect on the amount of AndroGel® absorbed if done very infrequently.

## Laboratory Tests

1. Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels should be checked periodically (to detect polycythemia) in patients on long-term androgen therapy.
2. Liver function, prostatic specific antigen, cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein should be checked periodically.
3. To ensure proper dosing, serum testosterone concentrations should be measured (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

## Drug Interactions

Oxyphenbutazone: Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.

Insulin: In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and, therefore, insulin requirements.

Propranolol: In a published pharmacokinetic study of an injectable testosterone product, administration of testosterone cypionate led to an increased clearance of propranolol in the majority of men tested.

Corticosteroids: The concurrent administration of testosterone with ACTH or corticosteroids may enhance edema formation; thus, these drugs should be administered cautiously, particularly in patients with cardiac or hepatic disease.

## Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T3 and T4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

## Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Animal Data: Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. In mice, the implant induced cervical-uterine tumors, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.

Human Data: There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term oral therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy.

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.

Pregnancy Category X (see Contraindications)—Teratogenic Effects: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Nursing Mothers: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and efficacy of AndroGel® in pediatric patients have not been established.

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

In a controlled clinical study, 154 patients were treated with AndroGel® for up to 6 months. Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by ≥1% of the patients are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to Use of AndroGel® in the Controlled Clinical Trial

Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Acne	1%	3%	8%
Alopecia	1%	0%	1%
Application Site Reaction	5%	3%	4%
Asthenia	0%	3%	1%
Depression	1%	0%	1%
Emotional Lability	0%	3%	3%
Gynecomastia	1%	0%	3%
Headache	4%	3%	0%
Hypertension	3%	0%	3%
Lab Test Abnormal*	6%	5%	3%
Libido Decreased	0%	3%	1%
Nervousness	0%	3%	1%
Pain Breast	1%	3%	1%
Prostate Disorder**	3%	3%	5%
Testis Disorder	3%	0%	0%

\*Lab test abnormal occurred in nine patients with one or more of the following events: elevated hemoglobin or hematocrit, hyperlipidemia, elevated triglycerides, hypokalemia, decreased HDL, elevated glucose, elevated creatinine, or elevated total bilirubin.

\*\*Prostate disorders included five patients with enlarged prostate, one patient with BPH, and one patient with elevated PSA results.

The following adverse events possibly related to the use of AndroGel® occurred in fewer than 1% of patients: amnesia, anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, hirsutism, hostility, impaired urination, paresthesia, penis disorder, peripheral edema, sweating, and vasodilation.

In this clinical trial of AndroGel® skin reactions at the site of application were occasionally reported with AndroGel®, but none was severe enough to require treatment or discontinuation of drug.

Six (4%) patients in this trial had adverse events that led to discontinuation of AndroGel®. These events included the following: cerebral hemorrhage, convulsion (neither of which were considered related to AndroGel® administration), depression, sadness, memory loss, elevated prostate specific antigen and hypertension. No AndroGel® patients discontinued due to skin reactions.

In an uncontrolled pharmacokinetic study of 10 patients, two had adverse events associated with AndroGel®; these were asthenia and depression in one patient and increased libido and hyperkinesia in the other. Among 17 patients in foreign clinical studies there was one instance each of acne, erythema and benign prostate adenoma associated with a 2.5% testosterone gel formulation applied dermally.

One hundred six (106) patients have received AndroGel® for up to 12 months in a long-term follow-up study for patients who completed the controlled clinical trial. The preliminary safety results from this study are consistent with those reported for the controlled clinical trial. Table 2 summarizes those adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by at least 1% of the total number of patients during long-term exposure to AndroGel®.

Table 2. Incidence of Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to the Use of AndroGel® in the Long-Term, Follow-up Study

Adverse Event	Dose of AndroGel®		
	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Lab Test Abnormal*	4.2%	0.0%	6.3%
Peripheral Edema	1.4%	0.0%	3.1%
Acne	2.8%	0.0%	12.5%
Application Site Reaction	9.7%	10.0%	3.1%
Prostate Disorder**	2.8%	5.0%	18.8%
Urination Impaired	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

\*Lab test abnormal included one patient each with elevated GGT, elevated hematocrit and hemoglobin, increased total bilirubin, worsened hyperlipidemia, decreased HDL, and hypokalemia.

\*\*Prostate disorders included enlarged prostate, elevated PSA results, and in one patient, a new diagnosis of prostate cancer; three patients (one taking 7.5 g daily and two taking 10 g daily) discontinued AndroGel® treatment during the long-term study because of such disorders.

## DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

AndroGel® contains testosterone, a Schedule III controlled substance as defined by the Anabolic Steroids Control Act.

Oral ingestion of AndroGel® will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

## OVERDOSAGE

There is one report of acute overdosage by injection of testosterone enanthate: testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dL were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

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Do not apply AndroGel® to the genitals.

Serum testosterone levels should be measured approximately 14 days after initiation of therapy to ensure proper dosing. If the serum testosterone concentration is below the normal range, or if the desired clinical response is not achieved, the daily AndroGel® 1% dose may be increased from 5 g to 7.5 g and from 7.5 g to 10 g as instructed by the physician.

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# Morgan Hill case goes to trial

by Joe Dignan

What if you were a gay high school student who was hospitalized after a bunch of your fellow students beat you up at the school bus stop, shouting "faggot, faggot" — while the school bus driver sat and watched?

What if you were a lesbian high school student who repeatedly got pornography, with pictures of bound and gagged women, stuffed in her school locker — with graffiti in red ink scrawled across the pictures reading, "Dyke, we'll do this to you if you don't leave?"

What if in both cases, the students went to the school administration and asked for protection — and the administrators did nothing?

Should the school and its administrators be held responsible?

After it was sued about these and other incidents, the Morgan Hill Unified School District in the South Bay insisted for five years in federal court that it should not be.

But finally on Tuesday, April 8, a three-judge panel of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously rejected the district's arguments and sent the case, *Flores v. Morgan Hill USD*, to district court in San Jose for trial.

The decision held that a school must take steps to eliminate harassment when it knows that lesbian, gay, or bisexual children are being abused at school.

"I think it's a wonderful statement by the court," said Teri Erickson, legislative co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Straight Education Network in the Peninsula and South Bay. "It says, we're not going to excuse it away. It says this is unacceptable. You can't do it anymore."

California's AB537, which was passed by the Legislature in 1999 and went into effect in 2000, prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in the state's schools. The Morgan Hill school district had claimed that because the abuses named in the *Flores* case took place prior to 1998, before the law went into effect, that they didn't know if they were responsible or not.

But GLSEN members and other advocates say that abuses of the sort documented in the *Flores* case continue to happen all around the state, and school administrators continue to do nothing about them — even with the existence of the new state law.

One of the most conspicuous victims of this kind of alleged abuse was Gwen Araujo, the 17-year-old transgender teenager who was murdered in Newark, California last October. Reportedly, Araujo had been abused throughout her school career, was transferred from



Alana Flores

school to school in the Newark school district, and ultimately dropped out in her junior year.

Paul Clifford, of the Newark chapter of Parents Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays, said that the PFLAG help line "continues to get calls from desperate parents." He said that in Newark, even today, teachers fear institutional retaliation from school administrators if they help students who are abused for being gay or lesbian.

He said that the Newark school district continues to ignore the re-

quirements of AB537, which are to provide equal opportunity and due process to all students, and to keep records of antigay harassment.

The Newark district was on spring break this week and administration officials were unavailable for comment.

Alana Flores was the Morgan Hill student who allegedly had pornography stuffed in her locker, emblazoned with "die dyke bitch," and other epithets. Flores said that when she complained to the assistant principal of the school, Delia Schizzano, Schizzano told her, "Don't bring me this trash anymore." She is the only student in the lawsuit who has gone public since the suit was filed and has spoken out at queer youth events in the Bay Area.

The principal of the Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill, Bob Davis, allegedly refused to see Flores until two weeks after the incident.

The *Flores* case alleges that the administrators' attitude was deliberate indifference, not a mistake, and that the administrators are personally liable for civil damages.

The lawyers working on the *Flores* case include Jim Emery, of Kecker and Van Nest in San Francisco, Kate Kendell and Courtney Joslin of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and a legal team from the American Civil Liberties Union. ▼

## Rick Santorum

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Executive Director Patrick Guerriero, referring to the Texas sodomy case now before the court. "I am appalled that a member of the United States Senate leadership would advocate dividing Americans with ugly hate-filled rhetoric."

Santorum is chairman of the Republican conference in the Senate, third in his party's leadership.

"The discriminatory remarks made by Senator Santorum clearly do not reflect the compassionate conservatism promised by our president," added John Partain, president of Pennsylvania Log Cabin Republicans. "I thought we were past these types of remarks now that Jesse Helms is no longer in the Senate."



Log Cabin's Patrick Guerriero

"If Senator Santorum is really concerned with what's best for American families, he would show compassion and actively promote policies that support all families,

including lesbian and gay families," said Stacey Sobel, executive director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, in Philadelphia.

Santorum is scheduled to appear at a town hall meeting in Philadelphia on the morning of April 23. Local community activists plan on attending that meeting.

Santorum, 44, is a brash young favorite of the Christian right. He has pushed their social agenda in his four years in the House and 10 years in the Senate.

Concerned Women for America attacked Log Cabin "thought police" who "don't see any room in the 'big tent' [of the Republican Party] for people who object to homosexual behavior on religious grounds."

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer was asked about the comments at his press briefing on Tuesday, April 22. He said that he had not talked with the president about it, they were busy on other matters.

"The silence with which President Bush and the Republican Party leadership have greeted Senator Santorum's remarks is deafening," said a statement released by Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean.

Rival Democratic presidential

## Dean calls for Santorum to resign leadership post

by Cynthia Laird

One day after criticizing Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum for his homophobic comments about gays, Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean called for the Republican to resign from his leadership post.

Santorum is the third ranking member in his party's Senate leadership as chair of the Republican Conference.

"Yesterday, I called on President Bush and the Republican Party leadership to condemn Senator Rick Santorum for his deeply offensive remarks comparing homosexuality to bigamy, polygamy, incest, and adultery," Dean said in a statement released Wednesday, April 23. "As additional reports have come to light, revealing a dis-

turbing history of inflammatory antigay rhetoric by Senator Santorum, the deafening silence of President Bush and his party has become inexcusable."

Dean said that Santorum had refused to apologize for his comments, calling them "a legitimate public policy discussion."

"Gay-bashing is not legitimate public policy discussion; it is immoral," Dean said. "Rick Santorum's failure to recognize that attacking people because of who they are is morally wrong [and] makes him unfit for a leadership position in the United States Senate."

Dean also criticized Bush.

"By refusing to stand up for gay Americans under attack by members of his own party's leadership, this president sends a message that intolerance and bigotry is acceptable. That is not acceptable." ▼

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# HMO decision pokes holes in senior coverage

by Zak Szymanski

For Dr. Gary Feldman, watching some of his HIV-positive patients go from diarrhea-induced wasting to a thriving disposition on effective medications has been rewarding. So when he learned that many of his older patients would be affected by a recent HMO's decision to discontinue coverage of some HIV-related treatments, he was outraged.

Health Net of California's Seniority Plus Plan, one of only two options available for senior San Franciscans who choose to supplement their Medicare policies, has discontinued the coverage of nearly all self-injectable drug treatments. The decision, which

went into effect on March 15, according to Health Net spokesman Brad Kieffer, applies to any medications administered more than half the time by patients themselves. For patients with HIV, these injectables could include life-sustaining treatments such as testosterone, and the anti-diarrhea medicine Sandostatin, upon which doctors like Feldman have come to regularly prescribe.

"We're talking about meds that are not on the ADAP formulary, so these patients, most of whom are living off Social Security, would have no choice but to spend thousands of dollars on life-sustaining treatment," said Feldman, who takes issue with Health Net's decision to previously offer treatments that have im-

proved patients' lives, then abruptly rescind those benefits.

"These are people who have been stabilized by injectables," said Feldman, "and now the rug is being pulled out from under them."

Health Net's Kieffer told the *Bay Area Reporter* that its policy has always been to follow Medicare rules for coverage, which is approved by the Center for Medicare Services. The Medicare formulary, said Kieffer, changed this year, and Health Net simply followed along.

But doctors like Feldman think that excuse rings hollow. Health Net, for one, is not legally obligated to follow Medicare guidelines, it has simply chosen to do so, and not uniformly, as Kieffer himself admits; the plan has chosen to continue to cover an anti-clotting agent that Medicare guidelines stopped covering.

And offering the same benefits as Medicare, said Feldman, gives a patient no incentive to join the supplemental HMO in the first place.

Kieffer disagrees, noting that Health Net's Senior Plus still offers benefits not offered by the Medicare plan. He also said that for many of the injectables not covered, there are substitutions which Health Net would cover.

Such substitutions, however, said Feldman, require inconvenient doctor administration, and are often not as effective as self-injectables.

"Health Net is within its legal rights to follow Medicare guidelines, but is the company making a morally sound decision?" said Feldman. "They need to take a certain level of responsibility."

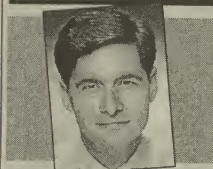
Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco's only other HMO for seniors on Medicare, continues to

offer self-injectables, and is perhaps better able to do so because of its unique structure that combines doctor and insurance decisions under one roof. For patients who wish to switch from Health Net to Kaiser, said Kaiser's member services director Randy DeBoer, there is no pre-existing condition clause for people who have both parts of the Medicare plan (A and B).

And Health Net's Kieffer said that those patients who wished to continue on self-injectables should also consider the Medi-Cal plan.

"We are undergoing some extreme influences in the healthcare marketplace brought on by the staggering inflation of pharmaceutical costs," said Kieffer. "One of our chief goals is to maintain access to quality healthcare at affordable prices for our members but it has become more and more difficult to do that." ▼

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## AIDS researchers

◀ page 1

NIH and CDC officials being approached by congressional staffers who asked why certain grants were funded, as well as cases in which specific NIH grants that involved commercial sex workers or transgendered persons were targeted with the apparent intent of proving that these studies are promoting 'unfavorable' or 'unsafe' lifestyles with federal taxpayers' dollars.

Last week, the *New York Times* and *Science* magazine first reported on the controversial research being flagged for scrutiny. The *Times* piece quoted unnamed scientists and an NIH official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, who confirmed that project officers had been telling researchers in meetings and telephone conversations to avoid the so-called sensitive language.

However, Bill Pierce, an HHS spokesman, told the newspaper that the department does not screen grant applications for politically delicate content.

Yet *Science* reported that in March HHS officials had conducted a site visit of an investigator at UCSF whose studies of sex workers have been the target of a recent inquiry from Congress. The magazine reported that although there is no hard evidence that the inquiry and the site visit are linked, the events have shaken researchers at UCSF and some in government who worry that the

Bush administration and congressional Republicans are intensifying their scrutiny of research on sensitive topics.

Scientists also said they find it hypocritical for conservatives to be trying to squelch research when for years they have assailed HIV prevention work for not being backed up with scientific studies.

"On the one hand they are saying 'Show me the data' and on the other hand we feel intimidation," said the UCSF researcher. "How can we show data if people doing the research are intimidated by these tactics?"

## Their language is to shove LGBT health research back into the closet.

One congressional staffer, who routinely makes inquiries into AIDS research as well as HIV prevention programs funded by the federal government, called the *Times* article "exaggerated conspiracy paranoia more than real news."

The staffer, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity, said Congress has always done oversight of federal agencies, and with lawmakers doubling the NIH's budget over the past five years, it only makes sense that questions be asked on how this substantial increase in federal money is being spent.

"There is no question that some grants are questionable. Science should not be above scrutiny," said the staffer. "After all, it was the U.S. Public Health Service that funded the unethical Tuskegee research where African American men with syphilis were treated like lab rats. We have an obligation to ensure federally funded science is ethical and limited resources are spent on research that will above all else improve the human condition of those afflicted."

While it has not been unusual in the past for individual members of Congress to engage in such inquiries for various reasons, the level of scrutiny has become pervasive, according to many researchers.

"Researchers in various fields have contacted GLMA about this," said Haller. "Many have been advised by their project officers to avoid 'sensitive' terms in the titles of their grants if they expect to get funding."

In confidential communications, researchers have told GLMA that, while there is no written policy, staffers at government health funding agencies "have been leaking info to me, you, others" that

indicates that this screening is taking place "with the apparent intent to prove that these studies are promoting 'unfavorable' or 'unsafe' lifestyles with federal taxpayers' dollars."

"Needless to say, this is very upsetting to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered medical and research communities," said Haller. "Over the past few years mounting research has shown that sexual-minority persons have many health concerns not shared by the larger community. For the federal government to effectively strip researchers not just of their

funding but even their language is to shove LGBT health research back into the closet."

## Sex worker scrutiny

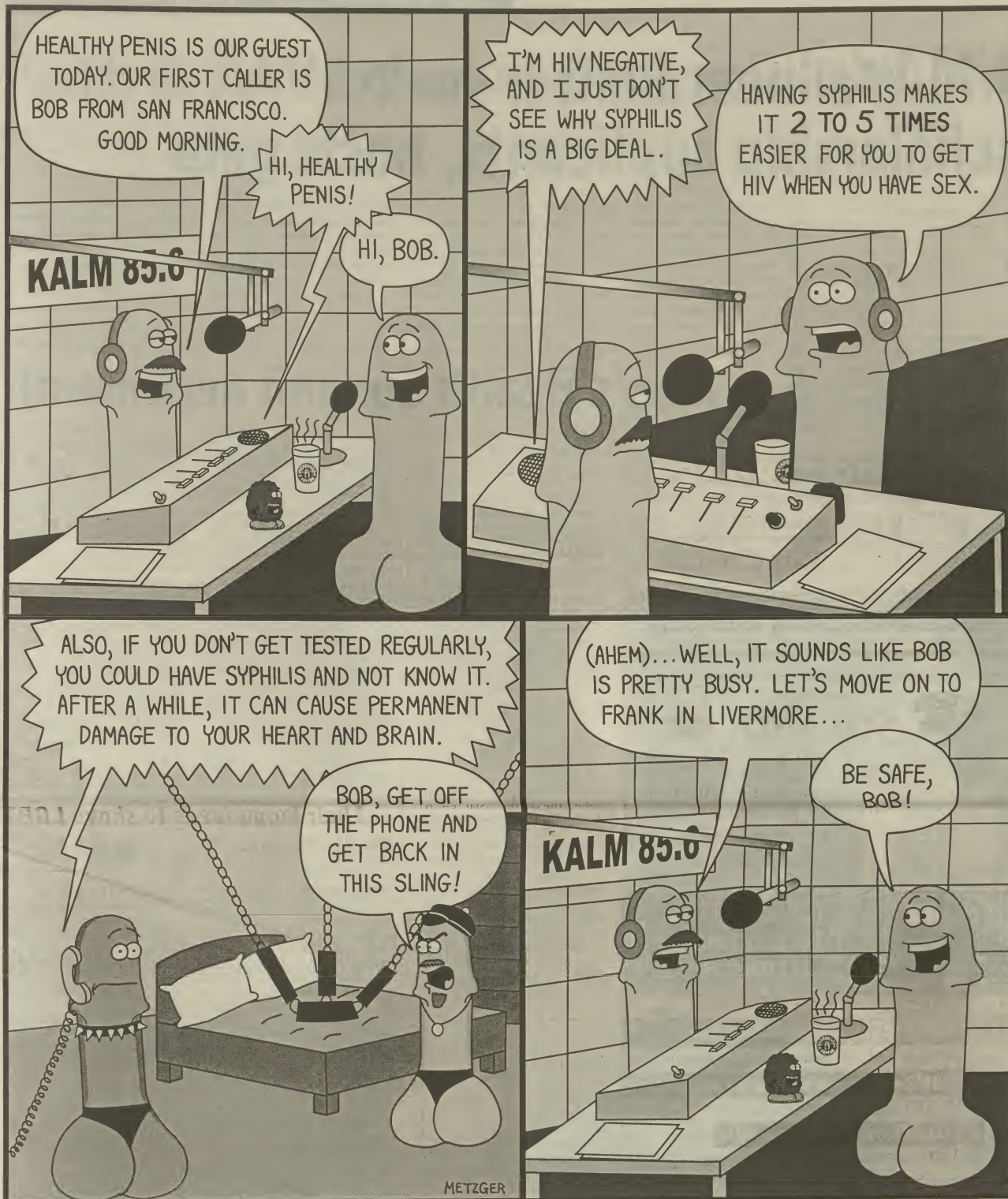
As for the report in *Science*, Pierce, the HHS spokesman, once again denied that the department is targeting research on certain topics. "We do nothing like that," he told the magazine. And John Burklow, an NIH spokesman, was quoted as saying the site visit was for "administrative issues," not "scientific content," and that there was nothing unusual about it.

The controversy centers on research by AIDS researcher Tooru Nemoto, whose projects include preventing HIV infection in Asian sex workers and in transgender men who plan or have had a sex change operation. According to the article, HHS officials inquired about Nemoto's research in early January, according to Regis Kelly, UCSF vice chancellor for research. Kelly said Nemoto also had support from another HHS agency, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and that HHS apparently wanted to be sure there was no "double dipping." UCSF supplied information to clarify that there was no wrongdoing, Kelly told the magazine.

Requests were made with UCSF for phone interviews with Kelly, Kaiser, and Nemoto but none of them returned calls to the B.A.R. by press time.

Several weeks after HHS's visit, NIH told the university that several agencies planned a site visit to discuss Nemoto's grants. That step was "very unusual," said UCSF grants and contracts manager Joan Kaiser, who added that nor-

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Syphilis is spread by "skin-to-skin" contact, through anal, vaginal AND oral sex. Many people don't notice the symptoms or know they have syphilis. The initial sore is painless. The good news is syphilis is easily cured.



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# API Wellness Center seeks scholarship applicants, hosts gala

by Zak Szymanski

Two upcoming deadlines at the Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center are fast approaching.

Younger Asian and Pacific Islanders in need of money to finance their education should apply for the API Wellness Center's Pride Scholarship, a program that awards eligible API Bay Area residents ages 22 and younger education grants from \$100 to \$4500 each.

The scholarship fund – launched in 2000 in conjunction with Edward Cheng Ming Tang, the Peninsula Community Foundation, and community activists – gives out awards totaling \$16,000 with the aim of eradicating the invisibility and homophobia that can hinder young APIs from furthering their education.

Factors considered in scholarship awards include financial need, personal and societal challenges, creativity and originality, and community involvement. Award recipients will be honored at an event this summer.

The deadline to apply for the API scholarship is Friday, May 9.

For more information, visit [www.apiwellness.org/v20/youth/application.html](http://www.apiwellness.org/v20/youth/application.html); e-mail [denise@apiwellness.org](mailto:denise@apiwellness.org); or call (415) 292-3420, extension 323.

Additionally, those interested in attending the API Wellness Center's awards gala should purchase tickets soon. The gala, held

on Tuesday, May 6, will honor Absolute Empress Suzie Wong; the hepatitis awareness project the Jade Ribbon Campaign; and the local South Asian organization Trikone.

The gala takes place at the California Culinary Academy, 625 Polk Street. Tickets are \$75 and

proceeds benefit API Wellness programs to support, educate, empower, and advocate for API communities, particularly those at risk for HIV/AIDS.

For tickets, call (415) 292-3420, ext. 341. More information is also available on-line at [www.apiwellness.org](http://www.apiwellness.org). ▼

## Gay Men's Health Summit next month

by Liz Highleyman

The next national Gay Men's Health Summit will take place May 7-11 in Raleigh, North Carolina. The summit is part of a nationwide effort to create a strong, visible, grassroots movement of diverse gay men looking at

a wide range of sexual, mental, and community health issues.

Organizers say they expect more than 300 healthcare providers, researchers, activists, and community members to attend. While the summit will focus on the health concerns of men who are gay, bisexual, queer, or have sex with men (including those who identify as FTM or transgender), allies of all genders are welcome and encouraged to attend.

This will be the third Gay Men's Health Summit; the previous two were held in Boulder, Colorado in 1999 and 2000. Last year's Boulder conference encompassed lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex health issues. Participants at that meeting decided to hold inclusive summits every other year, with focused meetings in alternating years.

The 2003 meeting will feature more than 100 sessions, including workshops, panel discussions, organizing meetings, and video screenings. The summit will begin May 7 with daylong pre-summit institutes focused on leadership training, racism, aging, youth, transgender men, and bears. Plenary panels will explore topics including reviving activism and the impact of homeland security, militarism, and war on queer men's health and wellness.

"We are thrilled that in our

third year we have pulled together what is, without question, our strongest program yet in both the quantity and quality of its content," said summit organizer Eric Rofes.

This year there will be an emphasis on the issues and concerns of queer/bi/gay men of color, as well as a series of sessions looking at the issues of transgender men. As always, a sizable section of the program will be devoted to sex and sexuality, featuring workshops on topics such as selling and buying sex, barebacking, and microbicides for anal sex. While HIV remains a crucial issue, summit participants will also look at the growing incidence of syphilis and staph infection among gay men, as well as HIV/hepatitis C coinfection. There will also be workshop tracks on holistic health and wellness, substance use, and skills building.

Other intriguing topics include a conversation between gay and bisexual men, dynamics between men of color and white men, "Civil Rights 101" for new immigrants, finding a gay-friendly doctor, what it's like to be gay in the South, and "Who's Your Daddy? Romance, Sex, and Power Between Gay Generations."

Last – but certainly not least – the summit will include a variety of social events, including opening and closing ceremonies, a reception hosted by the National LGBT Health Coalition, and the popular pool party.

"We want participants to be involved, to be vocal, to be challenged, to transform their thinking, and – above all – to have a good time," said organizer Jim Baxter.

Registration for the summit is \$185. For more information see [www.gmhs2003.org](http://www.gmhs2003.org). ▼



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## East Bay chorus holds benefit, spring concerts

by Matthew S. Bajko

This weekend the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus kicks off several spring events as it hosts a benefit screening of the movie *Sordid Lives*.

The indie film, subtitled *A Black Comedy About White Trash*, won a slew of best feature film audience awards at film festivals in 2001. The chorus is sponsoring two screenings of the film Sunday, April 27.

The first show begins at 6 p.m. and the second will begin at 9 p.m. at the Oakland Parkway Theatre. The Parkway, an East Bay institution that serves pizza and beer, is located at 1834 Park Boulevard, one mile off the Park Boulevard exit of Interstate 580.

The show costs \$10 and includes a special performance of

the chorus' Bridge and Tunnel Boys.

In May, the chorus will perform its annual spring concert. This year's performance, "Ah, Such Slings and Arrows," features classic and contemporary musical reflections on love, life, and lust.

The first performance takes place at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 3 at the Lake Merritt Methodist Church, 1330 Lakeshore Avenue in Oakland. The second show takes place at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 4 at the San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Avenue in San Leandro.

Tickets for both shows are \$15. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 1-800-706-2389.

For more information about the chorus, visit its Web site at [www.oebgmc.org](http://www.oebgmc.org), or to audition call the chorus' artistic director Dick Kramer at (510) 654-1122. ▼

## Our Man Friday

◀ page 11

by candidates running for public office? Get this – after former Vermont Governor Howard Dean trotted out former Crosby, Stills & Nash stars Graham Nash and David Crosby at an event for his candidacy for president, the John Kerry presidential campaign quickly countered with the middle musician, Stephen Stills.

Speaking of which, David Crosby might just want to take note (and perhaps start gearing up) – everybody's favorite rocker, Melissa Etheridge, 41, an-

nounced last week that she is now officially engaged to her lover of two years, actress Tammy Lynn Michaels, and a late-2003 wedding is in the works. Etheridge, you will surely recall, spent 12 years with former partner Julie Cypher; the couple had two children together, both borne by Cypher with Mr. Crosby contributing his sperm for the cause. Michaels, 28, who some claim bears a slight resemblance to Ellen DeGeneres's ex-girlfriend Anne Heche (you still with me on this?) is best known for playing the prissy Nicole Julian on the now-defunct WB series *Popular*.

And how was your week? ▼

# Faith & RAVE pass in Congress

by Bob Roehr

Congress has moved two pieces of legislation that affect the LGBT community. The Bush administration's faith-based initiative has been stripped of its most controversial provisions, while the essence of the so-called RAVE Act, which many believe threatens dance clubs, was slipped into another measure.

A compromise in the Senate, negotiated between Joe Lieberman (D-Connecticut) and Rick Santorum (R-Pennsylvania), removed the most controversial provisions of the faith-based initiative. That language would have allowed religious groups to discriminate against people, including gays and lesbians, in hiring for social programs funded with federal dollars.

Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, said the organization

opposed the measure passed by the House in 2001 because it would "force many Americans to publicly subsidize their own discrimination." That measure had passed only after moderate Republicans won assurances that the discriminatory sections would be removed in conference.

Now, Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director, praised the senators and the administration for addressing those concerns. The remaining legislation essentially adds a number of tax incentives to encourage charitable contributions. It passed the Senate just before its Easter recess.

Last year, controversy erupted over the Reducing Americans' Vulnerability to Ecstasy Act, introduced by Senator Joe Biden (D-Delaware). It sped through the Senate Judiciary Committee, then under Democratic control, without a hearing.

The congressional "findings"

read like a contemporary update of *Reefer Madness*, noting with horror that "many rave promoters facilitate and profit from flagrant drug use at rave parties or events by selling over-priced bottles of water," as well as neon glow sticks, massage oil, and menthol nasal inhalers "to enhance the effects of the drugs."

This year Biden changed the name of the bill, took out its more inflammatory language, and attached it, without a hearing or vote, to the Amber Alert bill that deals with child abductions. It passed the Senate on April 10.

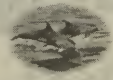
"It gives heightened powers and discretion to prosecutors, who may use it to target events they personally don't like — such as hip-hop events and gay and lesbian fundraisers," warned the Drug Policy Alliance.

The American Civil Liberties Union said the measure "threatens free speech," in a letter op-

posing the act that it sent to members of Congress.

"If it becomes law, property owners may be too afraid to rent or lease their space for events rightly or wrongly perceived as attracting drug users — essentially any event that attracts a young crowd," the ACLU letter stated. "Out of fear of massive fines and prison sentences, law-abiding business owners may stop hosting raves and other musical events, driving them further underground and away from public health and safety regulations." ▼

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## LGBT Latino/a artists honored May 1

by Zak Szymanski

San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez joins a host of well-known and emerging artists on Thursday, May 1, for the first-ever QUELACO awards reception for gay and lesbian Latino/a artists in San Francisco.

QUELACO — the Queer Latino/a Artists' Coalition — was

formed in 1993. It regularly hosts art exhibits, variety shows, poetry readings, film viewings, performance art, panel discussions, and drag king and drag queen contests for artists from all over the state.

Thursday's event will honor local artists, including Juan Pablo Gutierrez with the Lifetime Achievement Award and Juan Alberto Tam with the Community Service Award. Writer Cherie

Moraga, visual artist Ester Hernandez, and filmmaker Lourdes Portillo will also be honored.

The QUELACO awards reception is from 6-9 p.m. at the Emporio Armani Cafe, 1 Grant Avenue, at O'Farrell Street. Contributions to the event will help QUELACO to continue to support and promote the artistic work of a diverse community. To attend, or for more information, call (415) 354-2880. ▼

## People of Color

◀ page 5

overlooks that hyper-masculinity is very often a gay-positive affirmation, and also fails to recognize that there are many different expressions of male genders in Latin culture.

And sensationalism about people of color is not absent in the gay press, said Taher, who cited the coverage of black American men who like their male sex "on the down-low" as one such example.

"The importance of this issue is the fact that there is something going on, and that more funds and efforts need to be allocated to educate this community," said Taher. "A lot of stories were reporting from the angle of, 'Oh my God there are a lot of men sleeping

with men but they're married and don't identify as gay.' It shouldn't be about sensationalizing the issue, it should be about comprehending why this is happening."

Education will only serve to enhance the visibility of LGBT people of color. And already the POC project is hard at work; on April 17, in partnership with several other organizations, GLAAD released the 2003 edition of its Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Resource Kit, a comprehensive online reference designed to encourage inclusive coverage of LGBT people of color in the media. The complete kit is available at [www.glaad.org/media/apa/](http://www.glaad.org/media/apa/) and includes story suggestions; a detailed glossary of terms for use when covering LGBT APA people; a discussion of issues affecting LGBT APA people; a media con-

tact list, organization list, and other resources.

This is just a glimpse of the kind of work that GLAAD has been involved with for years, but now that funds and staff are allocated specifically for such efforts, said Taher, the work will be more visible.

"It's essentially the same program," said Taher, referring to the POC outreach efforts coordinated by herself and San Francisco's Javier over the years. "But it's going to be a better program. We're going to reach out to more people at the local, regional, and national level."

In order to fulfill that challenge, she added, GLAAD is hiring media managers that are culturally competent in various communities; interested applicants should call (323) 634-2025. ▼

## AIDS researchers

◀ page 18

mally such questions are addressed by phone or in correspondence. In late March, four officials from NIH and SAMHSA spent two days at UCSF asking about procedures and going "all over San Francisco" to hear scientific talks by Nemoto, according to the article. Kaiser said UCSF officials "haven't heard back," but assume the grants were in compliance.

UCSF officials thought no more of it until they learned several weeks ago about a memo from the House of Representatives to NIH. The 13 March e-mail memo, from staffer Roland Foster of the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources chaired by Representative Mark Souder (R-Indiana), raised concerns about

two NIH-funded studies of sex workers — Nemoto's and another led by a researcher in Miami, according to the magazine.

The memo, which HHS routinely forwarded to NIH director Elias Zerhouni, argued that by attempting to protect the health of sex workers, the studies "seek to legitimize the commercial sexual exploitation of women." This runs counter to a February directive from President Bush to reduce international sex trafficking, the letter claimed.

Foster's memo asked for detailed information about the two grants, including the names of study section members who approved them and the scores they gave. It also requested information on all NIH studies of prostitutes over the past decade. HHS is now asking the CDC to list studies it funds of sex workers, a CDC spokesperson told *Science*. Foster

said he played "no role" in the UCSF site visit, but is "interested in what may be found."

Even if researchers do alter the language in their applications, their research may still be scrutinized. In the latest example of work being questioned, Foster fired off another letter on April 11 to NIH raising questions about a UCSF grant to prevent HIV in gay men and demanded a list of all HIV prevention studies.

Haller said the attacks on LGBT research are meant to keep health programs directed toward the queer community from receiving funding.

"There are a lot of people in government right now who are not very friendly to our health concerns and really don't want to be having to spend money creating programs that would make our community healthier," he said. ▼

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# All the right moves

by Jim Provenzano

It's super. Thanks for asking!  
It's big! It's football. It's gay flag football.

As profiled last week, the San Francisco Shockwaves are hosting the second annual gay flag football Super Bowl this weekend.

Teams from Chicago, Atlanta, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Diego will compete for the title of champion flag football team, and the competition should be festive, fierce, and fun.

Gay Super Bowl II takes place April 26 at Crocker Amazon at Moscow and Geneva streets. Finals are Sunday, April 27, at St. Mary's Recreation Center at lower Bernal Heights.

Bring some pompoms, some lunch, and make it a day. What more fun do you need than half a dozen guys running around grabbing each other's butts?

For info, directions, and practice schedules, visit [www.sfs shockwaves.com](http://www.sfs shockwaves.com).

## Bean counts

Friday night, many sports and reading fans will be at A Clean Well Lighted Place for Books.

Billy Bean, the former Padres, Dodgers, and Tigers baseball player, and now author, will be speaking about his coming out after leaving pro ball, and signing copies of his autobiography, *Going the Other Way: Lessons from a Life*

in and out of Major-League Baseball, co-written with Chris Bull.

Bean recently spoke at the first Gay & Lesbian Athletics conference in Boston. Several Bay Area athletes attended the event. Look for those stories on HBO and at [www.gayconference.org](http://www.gayconference.org).

The book-signing event starts at 7 p.m., but even with the store's ample seating, it should be packed. Show up early if you want to sit. Maybe he'll sign your baseball, too.

A Clean Well Lighted Place for Books is at 601 Van Ness Avenue. (415) 441-6670.

## Tae go

Congratulations to the 15 members of Triangle Taekwon Do, who performed 1,000 kicks in one hour (17 kicks per minute) as part of the club's annual kick-a-thon, held last month.

The several thousand dollars in proceeds raised will be used toward participation in the June Pride event, the Eureka Valley Rec Center, and demo team appearances.

A "Best of the Bay 2002" winner in the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, Triangle TKD works to promote self-defense and physical well-being within in the LGBT community, and to promote martial arts in the Bay Area.

For more info, contact (415) 495-1888 or visit [www.triangle-tkd.org](http://www.triangle-tkd.org).

[gletkd.org](http://gletkd.org).

## Golden Gate

Whether you run or ride, in San Francisco, there's always a scenic route.

Upcoming events on wheels: The 2003 Ron Wilmot Bike Ride for Project Inform is Saturday, May 10. No speed contest this, but rather, a fundraiser for the AIDS treatment information nonprofit.

Enjoy seven leisurely miles through Golden Gate Park, donate to a rider, or meet riders starting at Peacock Meadow. Registration is at 9 a.m., and the ride starts at 10.

For non-pedalers, the Bay Area Distance Runners' Half Marathon is coming up on Mother's Day, May 11. Race at a moderate rate, or competitively with some local Gay Games medalists. Info: [www.badr.org](http://www.badr.org) and [www.sffrontrunners.org](http://www.sffrontrunners.org).

## Can sell ole Canseco

If you want high-end companionship, you need only to shop online.

Jose Canseco is auctioning off a "Day With Jose" in order to raise funds for his legal bills. As a baseball superstar with the Oakland Athletics, Canseco helped the team win the 1989 World Series.

In 2001, Jose forgot he was not on the baseball diamond, when he got in a fight in a bar in Miami, which resulted in an aggravated battery conviction.

To pay off legal debts, Canseco's auctioned private time would include power hitting lessons, a martial arts tutorial, or a cookout by his pool.

The auction opened at \$2,500 on April 9, and included limo service to and from Canseco's Florida home, where he's conveniently under house arrest.

The Web site [www.josecanseco.com](http://www.josecanseco.com) received over 300 bids, many of them pranks, sadly. It seems none panned out. The top offer of \$30,000 was from a fan identifying himself as "Joe Blow."

Judge Leonard Glick, who sentenced Canseco last month to two years' house arrest, said the auction was fine by him.

"As long as there's no criminal act going on, there's absolutely nothing wrong with it," Glick said.

Curious fans with money to burn are wondering if you get extra for tipping.

Canseco's former agent, Juan Iglesias, told the Associated Press that the auction winner will have a good time with the former A's star, who is also selling off other items on his site.

Jose does not accept PayPal. "Cashiers check or money orders only."

Said Iglesias, "He's got a lot of toys, a lot of cars, a nice pool, a gym, and a batting cage."

A tip from eBay: "When relisting your item, consider editing photo, description, or opening bid."

## Operation greens quest

Lacking a few thousand dollars, and their own toys, some sports fans have strange ways of showing their appreciation.

Some guys need to be told that paying admission doesn't allow you to join the team. They just can't stay off the damn lawn.

When a father and son team made enormous fools of them-



Dybas the dumb gets wired, then booked, at Cellular.

selves last year by taking to a baseball field in a reenactment of "COPS Stupidest Moments," the novelty had already worn off.

Oddly, a cell phone-hurling incident earlier this week did not happen at Pac Bell Park, but in similarly telecom-owned Network Associates Coliseum in Oakland.

An irate fan who allegedly threw a cell phone at a Texas Rangers player during an Oakland A's game is being held on \$15,000 bail in the Oakland jail. What he has is a failure to communicate.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, officials of the White Sox and Kansas City Royals teams went into Code Red alert after umpire Laz Diaz was attacked at U.S. Cellular field last week. (Cellular. See the pattern?)

Eric Dybas, 24, was arrested for aggravated battery charges in Chicago after allegedly hurling the divider in a pathetic lunge at his Warhol bite of fame.

First base umpire Diaz, a former Marine reservist, easily shook him off. Chicago teams have considered raising their security levels. Let's hope the Tom Ridge-approved tint won't clash with team colors.

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig told the media that security at all parks will be reviewed. "There is no place in baseball for such deplorable fan behavior," Selig said.

No, that's better when performed by trained personnel.

## Diamond dogs

Tim Robbins had to defend his free speech rights, in sharp contrast to the right-wing faux folk songs of his political candidate character, Bob Roberts.

The Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, fell in lock step with the cultural revolution sweeping our proud nation, and canceled its 15th anniversary screening of *Bull Durham*, a film that explores the amorous neuroses of minor league players.

Having no clue about Robbins's longtime personal form of activism, which included helping his Manhattan neighbors survive 9/11, the cancellation struck many as a politically biased stunt. But what isn't these days?

"In the 19 months since 9/11 we have seen our democracy compromised by fear and hatred," Robbins said in an April 15 speech at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The Hall of Fame's president is Dale Petroskey, who was also on the White House staff during the presidency of Ronald Reagan. Petroskey alleged that Robbins's antiwar expressions "could put our troops in even more danger."

Not shutting up under an obvious blacklist, Robbins said, "Basic inalienable rights, due process, the sanctity of the home have been quickly compromised in a climate of fear. A unified American public has grown bitterly divided and a world population that had profound sympathy

and support for us has grown contemptuous and distrustful, viewing us as we once viewed the Soviet Union, as a rogue state."

You'd think that Robbins's moment in *Bull Durham* atop the pitching mound in panties and garters would have irked such a stolid institution.

But no, it was his alleged peacenik antiwar free speech antics, or being the partner of Susan Sarandon, the only Oscar presenter who didn't have to say anything out of line to protest.

She simply emanates "Liberal Values," like a Statue of Liberty only slightly tarnished by the new wave of reactionary McCarthyism that's even soiled the United Way (they canceled Sarandon's appearances, too).

Now it's the HUAC Way.

But who needs committees, with droves of rabid Charlton Heston fans littering the Internet with Hollywood Scarlet Letter lists?

Said Robbins, "Every day the airwaves are filled with warnings, veiled and unveiled threats, spewed invective, and hatred directed at any voice of dissent. And the public, like so many relatives and friends that I saw this weekend, sit in mute opposition and in fear."

More of Robbins's speech can be read at [www.thenation.com](http://www.thenation.com).

## Cardinal sin

Sometimes, despite our stalwart defenders of liberty's best efforts, even baseball can be un-American.

Federal authorities investigating terror funding raided businesses controlled by Sterling Advisory Services, whose chief executive was Yaqub Mirza.

The St. Louis Cardinals baseball team hired Mirza's company five months ago to help the club secure financing for a new ballpark.

Mirza owned Virginia properties that had been raided in March 2002 as part of Operation Green Quest, a task force set up by the government to investigate possible terrorist organizations (or ransom private homes without warrants, depending on who's telling the story.)

According to the *Washington Post*, the groups are part of a complex Saudi-based financial empire that U.S. investigators allege handled \$1.7 billion since the mid-1990s, sending some of it to groups that Operation Green Quest has accused as linked to terrorists.

Mirza also was an officer of the Saar Foundation, a defunct nonprofit organization started in the 1970s by members of a wealthy Saudi family to raise money for educational and technology projects in developing Islamic countries. It was dissolved in December 2000.

To date, the task force claims to have seized \$11 million and arrested 93 people said (but not proven) to have been involved in terrorist financing operations.

No arrests or charges have resulted from the ongoing investigation, yet the Cardinals fired Mirza's firm for being accused.

According to campaign finance reports, on May 30, 2000, Hisham Altalib, the Saar Foundation vice president, gave \$1,000 to Bush for President.

I guess tipping doesn't help. ▼

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATEMENT FILE 0265623-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Constable Antique Lighting 366 Tenth Street San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Todd Alan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 26, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/26/2003.  
**APR. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265618-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Muang Thai Thai Cuisine, 385 Taylor Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wonchalurn Aksomboon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/26/2003.  
**APR. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03-540659

In the Matter of the Application of Julito McStay Ong for change of Name. The application of Julito McStay Ong for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Julito McStay Ong has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Julito Jules McStay Ong. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 02nd day of June at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APR. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265862-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Search Light Solutions, 684 A Sanchez Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Andrew P. Zalman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/04/2003.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265676-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Dauntless Promotion, 659 Scott Street #10, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jennifer Daunt. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 28, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/28/2003.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265692-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Motel Brazil Imports, 404 Broderick Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Andrew M. Della Rocca. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 28, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/28/2003.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03-54066

In the Matter of the Application of Robin Alison Gilmore For change of Name. The application of Robin Alison Gilmore for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Robin Alison Gilmore has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Mikal Robin Gilmore. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16 day of June at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03-540664

In the Matter of the Application of Jo Lill Howard For change of Name. The application of Jo Lill Howard for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jo Lill Howard has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Josephine Lillian Howard. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 02 day of June at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-03540673

In the Matter of the Application of D'Aarez Zeru O.C. Loggins For change of Name. The application of D'Aarez Zeru O.C. Loggins for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that D'Aarez Zeru O.C. Loggins has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to D'Aarez Zeru O.C. Woodard Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 5th day of June at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265865-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The UPS Store, 660 4th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Joseph M. Corpin and Stephen Portaro. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/04/2003.  
**APR. 10, 17, 24, MAY 1, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0266088-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Paul Ave Hand Car Wash, 49 Paul Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Scott D. Roberts. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 14, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/14/2003.  
**APR. 17, 24, MAY 1, 8, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0266048-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Law And Mediation Solutions, 83 Scotia Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joel K. Rubinstein. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/11/2003.  
**APR. 17, 24, MAY 1, 8, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0265914-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Island Treasures, 559 John Muir Dr. #B412 San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rodolfo C. Soriano. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 8, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/08/2003.  
**APR. 17, 24, MAY 1, 8, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0266130-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Exclusive Transportation Services, 1327 22nd Avenue San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Minh Nguyen H. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/16/2003.  
**APR. 24, MAY 1, 8, 15, 2003**

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION

**CASE NUMBER: FDI-03-752745**  
Notice to respondent Wendy Marie Huffman. You are being sued. Petitioner's name is: Christopher Darby Huffman. You have 30 Calendar Days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form 1282) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Notice: The restraining orders on the back are effective against both husband and wife until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. The name and address of the court is: San Francisco Superior Court 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102.  
**APRIL 17, 24, MAY, 01, 08, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0266149-00

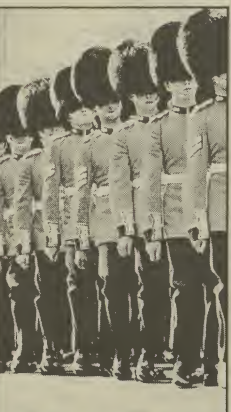
The following person(s) are doing business as: Unplugged Internet, Ca. 1375 De Haro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Joey Kollin, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/16/2003.  
**APR. 24, MAY 1, 8, 15, 2003**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC 03540683

In the Matter of the Application of Jerome Anthony Hardin. For change of Name. The application of Jerome Anthony Hardin for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jerome Anthony Hardin has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Jerome Anthony Cuffey. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16th day of June at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**APR. 24, MAY 1, 8, 15, 2003**

### STATEMENT FILE 0266144-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Metzler Brothers, 675 Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joseph B. Metzler. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 16, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/16/2003.  
**APR. 24, MAY 1, 8, 15, 2003**



## LEGAL NOTICES

### CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - CONSTRUCT 3

Applications must be received in the Arts Commission gallery by 5:30 p.m. May 17, 2003 or be postmarked no later than May 17, 2003. Deliver or mail to: Construct 3, SE Arts Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. Late applications will not be considered.

The Arts Commission Gallery is seeking site specific proposals for Construct 3 in the 3rd Annual Installation Award and Exhibition. Construct 3 will be judged by Berkeley Art Museum MATRIX curator Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson and Los Angeles-based artist Hirsch Perlman.

Exhibition dates are September 10 to October 26, 2003. Artists may apply as individuals or as a collaborative team. Proposals must be for works that are site-specific, and should provide detailed information and sketches about how the project will be physically incorporated into the gallery space. Artists may propose an installation for the entire gallery space, or for one of its two exhibition areas (north and south). Proposals for media installations will be accepted, but the artist will be responsible for providing technical equipment not owned by the gallery, and support services to maintain the installation. Guidelines and gallery floor plan are posted at [www.sfacgallery.org](http://www.sfacgallery.org).

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Contact the department to report possible fraud relating to weight, count or measure, deceptive packaging or advertising, retail store scanner pricing errors, inaccurate meters, short weight on products, substandard produce or illegal tobacco advertising. A consumer complaint form is available on our website at [www.sfgov.org/casf](http://www.sfgov.org/casf) or contact us directly with complaints. Help us promote equity in the marketplace in San Francisco!

For more information: Department of Consumer Assurance, 501 Cesar Chavez, Suite 109A, San Francisco, CA 94124. (415) 824-6100; fax (415) 285-8776; TTY: 415-285-1214. Toll Free: (888) 966-SURE (7873). [www.sfgov.org/casf](http://www.sfgov.org/casf)

#### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The Redevelopment Agency of San Francisco (Agency) is requesting qualifications from independent fee appraisers and appraisal firms to establish a panel of real estate appraisers. The panel will provide a variety of real estate valuation and evaluation services to the Agency on an open contract, as needed basis. To inquire about the RFQ or to obtain a copy of the RFQ, please visit the Agency's website at <http://www.ci.sanfrancisco.ca.us/site/sfra> or call Alma Basurto at (415) 749-2422.

The deadline for submitting a response to the RFQ is 4:00 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time), Thursday, May 15, 2003.

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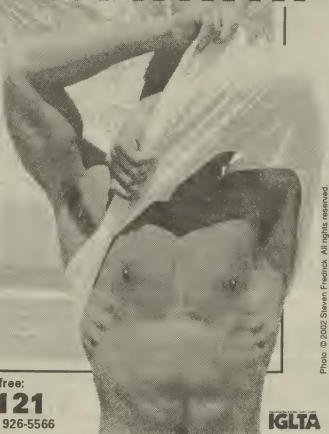
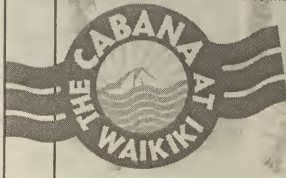


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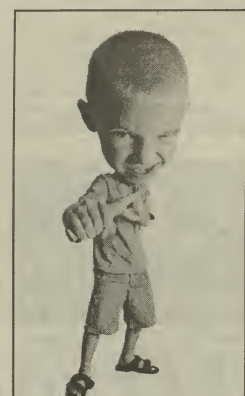
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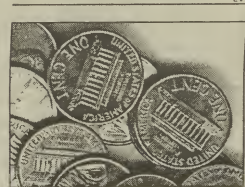
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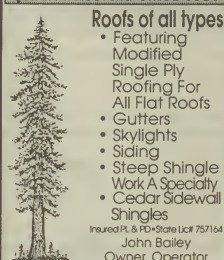
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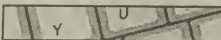
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## PATIENT INFORMATION

## SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)

[efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)]  
capsules and tablets

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with SUSTIVA.

Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA."  
Read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you  
refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. This leaflet provides a  
summary about SUSTIVA and does not include everything there is to know about your  
medicine. This information is not meant to take the place of talking with your doctor.

## What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used in combination with other medicines to help treat infection  
with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune  
deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of anti-HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse  
transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (viral load). SUSTIVA  
must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines,  
SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells, a  
type of immune cell in blood. SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other  
infections and complications. Therefore, it is very important that you stay under the care  
of your doctor.

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Therefore,  
continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

## What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

**Serious psychiatric problems.** A small number of patients experience severe depression,  
strange thoughts, or angry behavior while taking SUSTIVA. Some patients have thoughts  
of suicide and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more  
often in patients who have had mental illness. Contact your doctor right away if you think  
you are having these psychiatric symptoms, so your doctor can decide if you should  
continue to take SUSTIVA.

**Common side effects.** Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble  
concentrating, and/or unusual dreams during treatment with SUSTIVA. These side effects  
may be reduced if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime on an empty stomach. They also tend  
to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these common  
side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have serious psychiatric  
problems, such as severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Tell your  
doctor right away if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. It is possible  
that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood  
altering (street) drugs.

If you are dizzy, have trouble concentrating, or are drowsy, avoid activities that may  
be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.  
**Rash is common.** Rash usually goes away without any change in treatment. In a small  
number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor right  
away. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right  
away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA.

**Other common side effects** include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea.  
**Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat develop in some patients taking anti-HIV  
medicine. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and  
neck ("buffalo hump"), in the breasts, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms,  
and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these fat changes  
are not known.

Tell your doctor or healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.  
Contact your doctor before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects or for any  
other reason.

This is not a complete list of side effects possible with SUSTIVA. Ask your doctor or  
pharmacist for a more complete list of side effects of SUSTIVA and all the medicines  
you will take.

## How should I take SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

## General Information

- You should take SUSTIVA on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime.
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water.
- Taking SUSTIVA with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which  
may increase the frequency of side effects.
- Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.
- SUSTIVA must be taken in combination with other anti-HIV medicines. If you take  
only SUSTIVA, the medicine may stop working.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose  
right away, unless it is almost time for your next dose. Do not double the next dose.  
Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best  
times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on  
your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- If you believe you took more than the prescribed amount of SUSTIVA, contact your  
local Poison Control Center or emergency room right away.
- Tell your doctor if you start any new medicine or change how you take old ones. Your  
doctors may need adjustment.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy.  
This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the  
medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to  
SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.
- Your doctor may want to do blood tests to check for certain side effects while you  
take SUSTIVA.

## Capsules

- The dose of SUSTIVA capsules for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken  
together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see  
Can children take SUSTIVA?).

## Tablets

- The dose of SUSTIVA tablets for adults is 600 mg (one tablet) once a day by mouth.

## Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious  
problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any  
other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children  
may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are  
available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

## Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to the active ingredient, efavirenz, or to any of  
the inactive ingredients. Your doctor and pharmacist have a list of the inactive ingredients.

## What should I avoid while taking SUSTIVA?

**Women taking SUSTIVA should not become pregnant.** Serious birth defects have been  
seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in  
humans. Tell your doctor right away if you are pregnant. Also talk with your doctor if  
you want to become pregnant.

**Do not breast-feed if you are taking SUSTIVA.** The Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention recommend that mothers with HIV not breast-feed because they can pass  
the HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, SUSTIVA may pass through breast milk  
and cause serious harm to the baby. Talk with your doctor if you are breast-feeding.  
You may need to stop breast-feeding or use a different medicine.

**Taking SUSTIVA with alcohol or other medicines** causing similar side effects as  
SUSTIVA, such as drowsiness, may increase those side effects.

Do not take any other medicines without checking with your doctor. These medicines  
include prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal products, especially  
St. John's wort.

## Before using SUSTIVA, tell your doctor if you

- have problems with your liver, or have hepatitis. Your doctor may want to do tests  
to check your liver while you take SUSTIVA.
- have ever had mental illness or are using drugs or alcohol.

## What important information should I know about taking other medicines with

## SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines, including ones for HIV, and cause  
serious side effects. Your doctor may change your other medicines or change their  
doses. Other medicines, including herbal products, may affect SUSTIVA. For this reason,  
it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those  
you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your prescription and non-prescription medicines as well as any herbal  
remedies that you are taking when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how  
much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture  
of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

Taking SUSTIVA with St. John's wort (*hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold  
as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended.  
Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking  
St. John's wort may decrease SUSTIVA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible  
resistance to SUSTIVA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV drugs.

## MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH SUSTIVA

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken  
with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Hismanol® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be replaced with another medicine when taken  
with SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Fortovase®, Inivase® (saquinavir)
- Bixatrip® (darifenacin)
- St. John's wort
- Crivivan® (indinavir)
- Mycobutin® (rifabutin)
- Methadone

These are not all the medicines that may cause problems if you take SUSTIVA.  
Be sure to tell your doctor about all medicines that you take.

## General advice about SUSTIVA:

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient  
information leaflets. Do not use SUSTIVA for a condition for which it was not prescribed.  
Do not give SUSTIVA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have.  
It may harm them.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist.  
The temperature can range from 59° to 86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about SUSTIVA. If you would  
like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for  
the full prescribing information about SUSTIVA, or you can visit the SUSTIVA website at  
http://www.sustiva.com or call 1-800-426-7644.

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SUSTIVA (efavirenz) in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

**SUSTIVA does not cure HIV or prevent passing HIV to others.**

## Safety Information

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams. These feelings tend to go away after taking the medication for a few weeks. Mild to moderate rash is another common side effect. A small number of patients have reported severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. There have been a few reports of suicide but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. SUSTIVA should not be taken with Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam) or ergot derivatives. Tell your doctor about any medications or herbal products (particularly St. John's wort) that you are taking. Women should not become pregnant or breast-feed while taking SUSTIVA.

Please see important information about SUSTIVA on next page.

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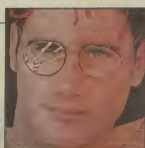
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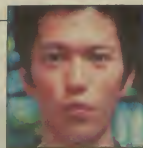
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**Finding peace in belly of the beast**  
*Out There* inspects the troops in the very capital of U.S. military/industrial power.  
**page 30**

**'Psycho' thriller**  
 Derek Cameron's lusty abandon sends John Karr.  
**page 39**



**'Hush' puppies**  
 Japanese family values challenged at the Castro.  
**page 35**



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 17 • 24 April 2003

## AND THE BAND PLAYS ON... GAILY!



Life in the raw, in *Mango Yellow*

### THRILLS, CHILLS & SPILLS

**More picks from 46th SF Intern'l Film Fest, Week 2**

by David Lamble

**Mango Yellow** Filmgoers who appreciate the off-kilter rhythms of Brazilian society as featured in such films as *Central Station* and *Charcoal People* have a double treat in store for them. *Mango Yellow*, the debut feature from director Claudio Assis, features a cast of the most brazen down-and-outers this side of Tennessee Williams, including a queer flophouse cook who manages to roast the romantic goose of a very macho butcher.

Warning: this filmmaker makes no attempt to spare delicate sensibilities. No one who wishes to avoid life in the raw (including but not limited to the actual slaughter of a steer, passionate and distinctly non-romantic depictions of raw lust, and downright murderous battles between all the sexes) should attend these screenings. But for those who wish an honest and tough-minded poetic view of one of the most vibrant and scary Third World societies, this is a film not to be missed. The widescreen camerawork of Walter Carvalho, who lensed *Central Station*, is worth the price of a ticket. (Kab, 4/26, 29)

**BUS 174** As raw as *Mango Yellow* is, nothing really prepares you for the roller-coaster ride of a real-life bus hijacking, captured in all its tabloid-TV glory but enriched with true interviews with people who survived the  
**page 43 ►**

### SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band's 25th anniversary concert

by Heidi Beeler



My first San Francisco Pride Parade was 1991. That morning, I was a bit bewildered to find myself clad in black, red and rainbow polyester, my beat-up horn under one arm, standing in the middle of rows of rainbow musicians, blinking in the sunshine. I was just coming out, had joined the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band a couple of months before, and hadn't played trumpet in 10 years. The Dykes on Bikes gunned their engines ahead of us and took off in a cloud of prideful exhaust. A whistle blew, we turned the corner onto Market Street, and what I can only describe as a massive roar rose up the faces of the skyscrapers and surrounded us the entire length of the parade.

That long roar was my first clue that this was not your average community band. The year I joined, I began to hear stories about the Freedom Band, and its heroes recounted like tribal legends. The band was the first gay music group in the country. Jon Sims, its founder, leapt before it like a gazelle. Its ranks spanned a full city-block, and were filled with musicians, flag-bearers, twirlers and tap-dancers. Gay music and dance groups in San Francisco and across the country sprang forth from it.

Sims took the band to Davies Symphony Hall, to Bread & Roses at the Greek Theatre, to Francis Ford Coppola's 40th birthday party, to Bette Midler book-signings, and to fundraisers at Dianne Feinstein's home, where she stored an unbelievable collection of shoes.

This year, for the band's 25th anniversary, videographers Billy Green (a trombone player who joined in 1991) and Chip Hoover decided

**page 40 ►**

Archival photo from the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band documentary project

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

## "CRITIC'S PICK OF THE WEEK"

NY MAGAZINE

## "SHOCKING!"

Raw and potent feature debut,  
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- Lisa Schwarzbaum, Ent. Weekly

## "RAZOR SHARP!"

- Jack Matthews, NY Daily News

## "A Slam Bang Debut!!"

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

-Karyn Kubo Lamborn,  
THE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINER, SEATTLE

## "TOUCHING!"

-SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

## HUSH!

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Casting: Toshiaki Yamaguchi. Music: KENJI YOSHIKAWA. Original Music: ROBERTO BERA. Produced by TOSHIO OKADA and SHIRO KATADA  
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Wartime capitals tour  
Have Kevlar helmet, will travel

by Roberto Friedman

Our aggressive Filipino-American cabbie got cut off as we merged into Dupont Circle, by a Towncar bearing diplomatic plates. He let loose a torrent of invective in what we presumed was Tagalog. At the light, he began honking his horn and shouting, "Saddam Hussein!" waving wildly at a man on the sidewalk, swarthy with a thick, black mustache. Noting Out There's discomfort, he laughed and assured us the man was his friend, not Iraqi but Egyptian, and here in our nation's capital legally. The Night Cabbie had even been trying to get this guy a job, but the Saddam lookalike had a poor grasp on the intricacies of English. "And I tell him to shave off his mustache. Is very unpopular in America."

While coalition forces conquered sovereign nations last week, OT went on our own wartime-capitals tour to Washington, DC, and London, those very hearts of the Anglo-American invasion. Call us fearless, call us foolish, just don't call us late for the reconstruction! We figured it was time that the troops on the home-front got inspected, too.

The pilot of our flight into (you should pardon the expression) Ronald Reagan National Airport warned us that no-one was allowed to leave their seats, even for a potty break, starting 30 minutes before our final approach. Even one passenger sneaking off to the lav would constitute a security breach, and our plane would have to be diverted to a Purgatory like Dulles airport. Obediently, all Economy Class stayed glued to our seats, like students in after-school detention.

For a city variously traumatized by 9/11, Anthrax October,



Blossoms outside the Music Room at the Phillips Collection in Washington.

Sniper Season, and a procession of pretty Orange Alerts, DC was surprisingly upbeat. Cherry blossoms were blooming, and the bars were full of men doffing their shirts for bare-chest specials. A young mother shepherding her two tots past us on the sidewalk confided, "Having children is gross."

There was little outward evidence that the city had been taken over by a reactionary invasion force (Bush II), but then we spent our time in the leafier districts Northwest of Capitol Hill, streets dotted with embassies and the residences of the city's permanent civil-service. License plates read, "No taxation without representation," a reference to the fact that the overwhelmingly Democratic residents of the District have no voting member in Congress. This is almost as much of a boon to the GOP as the Green Party was.

Traveling solo makes it easy to meet people, like the college journalist we met on the Metro, on his way to the National Press Club to hear *Chicago Tribune* columnist Clarence Page on war coverage; or the succulent youth on his way to stay with his buddy the Navy

bureaucrat — we didn't ask, he told!

While in DC we read *Washington*, the smacking-good memoir by the late Meg Greenfield, the *Washington Post* Editorial Page Editor and Pulitzer winner (Public Affairs). She was an insider with a good sense of perspective, and here she recounts the whole cast of characters she's known, using high-school social life as the most useful metaphor. Think of such eternal types as The Good Child or Teacher's Pet, argues Greenfield, and you understand the power-brokers of Washington.

"Journalism was what made me begin to finish my sentences and take the heat for a completed thought," Greenfield writes, and she's never afraid to name names, whether she's referencing the "unpleasant lunging" of former Sen. Bob Packwood, or weighing the pros and cons of outing Nixon chief of staff H.R. Haldeman's son Peter Haldeman (gay gay gay!)

## Face to vase

While Baghdad's National Museum of Antiquities was being plundered, an affront to civilization as heinous as ransacking the Louvre or the Met, we spent cocktail hour at The Phillips Collection, enjoying a jazz pianist and sipping vino in its music room hanging with Picassos and a Bacon. The National Library and Archives in Baghdad burned to ashes; in DC, Bush fiddled.

Rummy on the pillaging of antiquities: "It's the same picture of some person walking out of some building with a vase, and you see it 20 times and you think, my goodness, were there that many vases? Is it possible there were that many vases in the whole country?"

No-one fully realized just how dangerous these guys were, back in 2000 when they seized power, but now we know what kind of civilization we (and the world) get when we hand the keys of the kingdom over to the Pentagon.

Dickens serialized in the penny press, Twain serialized in the American equivalent, and now, so does Out There! Next week: We go to London when it sizzles. ▼



Out There

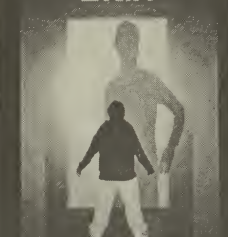
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Flowering streetscape in D.C.

## THEATRE

# Gender-theory office hours

Messing with 'Queer Theory' at the Exit Theatre

by Richard Dodds

The university professor in John Fisher's *Queer Theory* had a brother who, after gender reassignment surgery, is now his sister. But even though the prof is brazenly gay and a noted expert in queer studies, he can't wrap his head around what his brother/sister has done. A transsexual, he says, "is a bottom trapped in a homophobe's body."

That's not a notion often heard uttered from the stage, and though the play proceeds to make moot that philosophy, it is not necessarily meant to be rejected out of hand.

In plays ranging from *Medea* -

the *Musical* to the recent *Amnesia* at Theatre Rhino (where he is now artistic director), the prolific Fisher has often messed around with sexual and gender pigeonholes. But while his earlier works have left it to audiences to glean any ideas that emerge from the anything-goes theatrics, *Queer Theory* puts forward its ideas in the dialogue of debate.

At least, it does so through much of the first act of the Impact Theatre production, before infectious cases of sudden gender reassignments begin spreading through the characters with helzapoppin' glee. First it's the professor who finds his genitalia morphing from male to female and back again, and soon not only

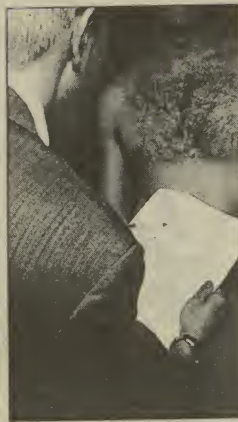
gender but identity begins shuffling the characters to the point that no one can be sure who he or she is talking to.

The confusion reaches its zenith in a name-game scene that has the eight characters trying to develop a complicated system that lets the others know who is speaking, who is being spoken to, and maybe even who's on first. It's a tongue-twisting mélange that isn't as funny as the complicated setup might indicate.

The play is actually most interesting before Fisher, who has directed his own play on the sparsest of sets, turns to vaudeville, burlesque, and some mildly engaging song and dance, to murkily illuminate a set of gender theories

that lead to a simplistic be-yourself moral. The program includes a bibliography of published works on transsexuality, intersexuality, and Renaissance "gender slippage," and the ideas that Fisher has borrowed give substance to the intriguing first-act debates among the professor, his students, and his sister.

Matt Weimer amusingly plays the professor as a bit of bitch-queen, and the always-striking Matthew Martin plays his sister with a veteran's panache. Valerie Weak does commendable work as the professor's female side, and there is agreeable support from Victoria Cuatero, David Ballog, Andrew Harkins, and the generally naked Pete Caslavka. ▼



Fluid gender in Fisher's new work.

*Queer Theory* runs at the Exit Theatre through May 17. Tickets (\$15): call (510) 464-4468.

# Meet the evil theatre critic

Shotgun Players' 'The Vampires,' a blast from the past

by Richard Dodds

Had Harry Kondoleon not died of AIDS in 1994, his name might today be grouped with Christopher Durang, Nicky Silver, and even Joe Orton, playwrights who often create goofily surreal eviscerations of status-quo society. But Kondoleon, who did most of his produced writing in the 1980s, didn't have the chance to mature as a gay/queer playwright, someone who could gain real control over the absurdities he conjures on stage.

Encounters with Kondoleon's plays can be rewarding, and the infrequency of their productions adds to the lure when they do turn up. The Shotgun Players of Berkeley have found an affinity with Kondoleon, having staged his *Life on Mars* in 1999 and, currently, *The Vampires* to positive effect.

Once again the venue is La Val's Subterranean, a basement theater of reach-out-and-touch intimacy that helps compensate for the lack of production amenities. Though Marilyn Stanley's star-spangled costumes do get a showcase in the second act, the compact no-frills environment concentrates focus on the performances. Fortunately, director

Joanie McBrien's production is made up of performances that can withstand and often reward this scrutiny.

The play's off-the-wall sensibilities are signaled in the opening minutes, when the hyper-chirpy CC (played with polished brass by Beth Donohue) arrives home and, in a swoop, is bitten on the neck by her husband Ian (a slyly appealing Patrick Dooley). He has decided to become a vampire as a way to get some life back into his life. The vampirish Ian is also a theatre critic, and his showy embrace of evil helps him justify his recent review that drove an actor to suicide.

Ian has even turned his pen on his own brother, a beer-and-barbecue carpenter of cabinets who has written a leaden patriotic play that brother Ian then skewered in print. Ed (the believably rougher-hewn Dave Maier) wants revenge, but will settle for a rewrite of his play and a living-room production for a group of VIPs. In addition to this sibling rivalry, the brothers' spouses (Donohue and the deceptively willowy Kimberly Wilday) release their own pent-up angers, often involving Zivia (bratty but winsome Nina Auslander). She is Ed and Pat's heavy-into-Goth daughter, who dances like a skeleton to music by Screamin' Jay Hawkins. She also

shoots heroin, gets sent to an ashram for detox, and ends up marrying a messianic guru (a beatific Robert Martinez).

The play is filled with choice tidbits, such as an allegorical deconstruction of vintage sitcoms, but all the ingredients begin to lose cohesion as the play progresses toward a comically lazy conclusion. Getting there is fun, and a

belated chance to experience a second rough gem by Harry Kondoleon makes the experience theatrically intriguing as well. ▼

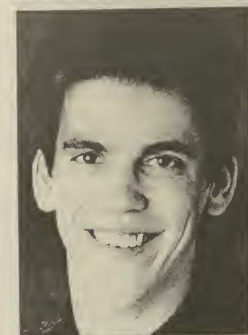
*The Vampires* will run at La Val's Subterranean in Berkeley through May 10. Tickets are \$10 & \$18. Call (510) 704-8210.



Nina Auslander as Zivia

# Cakewalk

'Disabled' at NCTC



Walloch: spirited performance

by Richard Dodds

Greg Walloch pulls a Sally Struthers in the opening moments of *White Disabled Talent*. In a voice quavering with empathy, Walloch says that for the cost of only one Starbucks latte a day, you can "adopt" an illiterate Chelsea gay boy, get a picture of your cute adoptee, and receive letters detailing his progress — in one case, progressing from reading *Stroke* magazine to Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

Walloch's one-man show, now at the New Conservatory Theatre

next page ►

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# Presenting the new crop

## San Francisco Opera Center's Showcase series

by Stephanie von Buchau

When Sheri Greenawald took over as Director of the San Francisco Opera Center last May, it's fair to say that only operatic insiders knew who she was. Despite what is usually described as a "distinguished" international career, the Iowa-born soprano was always the kind of opera singer who flew under the radar of star-seekers and the "Bohème is as modern as I get" kind of fans. When she hired the 55-year-old Greenawald, SFO general

director Pamela Rosenberg said, "I have always admired Sheri's intense artistry on stage."

No kidding. Greenawald could have been a poster child for the Rosenberg operatic ideal. Endowed with a modest lyric soprano, just deficient enough in size and pluck to keep her from becoming a Renee Fleming (critic Michael Walsh refers to her as an "heroic soubrette"), Greenawald had everything else necessary to make a successful, 30-year career in the opera world. She was slender, attractive, youthful, energetic, and an excellent actress with an expressive face and voice. She was also a superb musician.

"My greatest satisfaction is in making modern music come to life. The reason people don't think they like contemporary scores is that they are seldom rehearsed enough. If the singer is not sure, what do you expect from the listeners?"

Among other notable appearances in contemporary opera, Greenawald created roles in the world premieres of Carlisle Floyd's *Bilby's Doll* (Houston, 1976), Thomas Pasatieri's *Washington Square* (Detroit, 1976) and Leonard Bernstein's *A Quiet Place* (Houston, 1983).

Because she was "typecast as a singer who could learn modern music," as Greenawald says without rancor, she is used to working with living composers at the center of operatic creation. This makes her a natural fit for the Opera Center, SFO's training wing, which includes the Merola Opera Program (even though it is financially independent of SFO), the Adler Fellowships, the Schwabacher Debut Recitals, and various educational programs for Bay Area schools.

Greenawald will not, however, run Western Opera Theater any more. After a 35-year tenure as America's only national opera touring company, its plug was pulled by the new Opera Center director in a move that angered nostalgists, but which was consistent with SFO's current belt-tightening. "Everybody had to contribute," Greenawald said recently. "WOT was terribly expensive and getting..."

When her voice trailed off, I supplied the word "redundant." She agreed. "WOT used to appear only where there was no other opera, but that's not the case any more. When people in Virginia complained that WOT wouldn't come back, I thought, 'Then why doesn't Virginia Opera minister to them?' It's all about facing reality, isn't it? That \$500,000 savings per season was the Opera Center's



Soprano Sheri Greenawald

'contribution' to SFO's fiscal health."

### Stretching moves

It's unfortunate that the minor WOT flap may be the most exposure Greenawald gets before her charges deliver their first big event, Showcase 2003 at Fort Mason's Cowell Theater starting April 25. This year it consists of three one-act operas all in English, including William Walton's Chekhovian comedy, *The Bear*; Jack Beeson's *Dr. Heidegger's Fountain of Youth*; and Ernst Toch's *Edgar and Emily*, a piece that Greenawald herself has performed.

"I deliberately picked these pieces to stretch the singers." Though she may continue to sing (her last appearance was in Chicago Lyric Opera's *Sweeney Todd*), Greenawald is clearly enjoying respite from life as an operatic gypsy.

"Coming back to San Francisco is like coming home," she told me. "I lived here five years when I was with Edo." This plain declaration reminds us that, before the straight-laced Herbert Blomstedt, San Francisco Symphony's music director Edo de Waart was what Greenawald calls "a serial monogamist," with innumerable wives and girlfriends, of which one was Greenawald. It also brings up the fact that Greenawald had a well-earned reputation within the opera community as a bohemian free spirit.

I couldn't resist asking her if a story I'd heard years ago from tenor Neil Rosenshein was correct. He claimed that on some op-

eratic junket to a lady's club in the Midwest, during the lesson scene in *Barber of Seville*, Greenawald had mischievously whispered off-color remarks to him. Pretending to play the piano and trying to sing without breaking up, Rosenshein noticed that the blue-haired ladies in the front row were aghast. Apparently they had overheard Greenawald's ribaldries. Far from being offended by this story, Greenawald burst out laughing and claimed, "It's true, except it was Neil making off-color remarks to me!"

### Psyche reader

The youthful high spirits and camaraderie of this anecdote, combined with the implied hardships of opera-on-the-fly, give Greenawald the perfect perspective for dealing with her young charges. "You have to be a psychologist in this business," she says. "I don't want to brag, but after one rehearsal, I can always tell where the conductor and my colleagues are coming from. The same thing goes with these kids. I may have one soprano who seems extroverted, but you have to pull out the real emotion from inside, while another may seem closed and have to be coaxed to express physically what she is feeling."

When her appointment was first announced, Greenawald said, "As a performer, I know the complications of being on stage, and I think I'll be able to help artists go beyond the mundane technicalities of the life of a singer and dip into their reserves as human beings, reserves that will deepen and strengthen their performing skills." Among her own "reserves" are a strong non-denominational religious bent (she recommends Matthew Fox's *Original Blessing*—"Get it? the opposite of original sin?"—for spiritual awakening), her 17-year-old daughter at school in West Virginia ("It's a cliché, but we are much better friends now that we're not living together") and the NBA.

Greenawald is so open and down-to-earth that you immediately lose any "opera diva" awe you may have approached her with. But when the singer starts riffing knowledgeably on Stockton and Malone's pick-and-roll moves and then says saucily, "I like any team but the Lakers," my basketball Awe Meter goes over the top. As the saying goes, "The Lady's got game." ▼

**SF Opera Center Showcase, Apr. 25-May 4 at Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. Call (415) 345-7575.**

## Greg Walloch

◀ previous page

Center, is filled with genuinely amusing riffs on contemporary society as seen through the eyes of a gay man with cerebral palsy. It's a scattershot show, one that amiably moves from subject to subject, but without much sense of transition or dramatic build.

But give Walloch credit for persevering at an Easter Sunday matinee with an audience of only five. He provided a spirited performance that hesitated only in those beats where a crowd's laughter is probably usually found. Billed as a 60-minute show, this performance

ended at about 40 minutes, and felt somewhat undernourished.

The LA-born Walloch, now a New Yorker, has been performing variations on *White Disabled Talent* for a decade, and newspaper and magazine articles have indicated that his un-PC comments have sometimes riled other disabled people. In its current incarnation, it's hard to see which moments those might be.

Maybe in the moments when Walloch challenges those wishing upon him either a physical or spiritual healing of his malfunctioning legs. There are other concerns higher on his self-improvement list, he says. He was particularly incensed when he read

Louise Hay's best-selling *You Can Heal Your Life*, in which she claimed that cerebral palsy was brought to this earth to bring love into the family. "Fuck Louise Hay," he says, might be a useful mantra.

But anger is rare, and when it does arise, its manifestation is mild. Walloch is more interested in moving on than getting even. His true mantra for coping with everyday vicissitudes is simply, "May I feel what I feel when I eat cake." ▼

**White Disabled Talent runs through April 27 at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Tickets (\$17-20): 861-8972.**

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## DANCE

# Turning 30

## Margaret Jenkins Dance Company celebrates

by Michael McDonagh

The Margaret Jenkins Dance Company turns 30 this year. So our first question for the veteran choreographer has to be, "How does it feel to be 30?"

"Well, I wish I was," she laughs. "But having all this work from this time-period performed feels invigorating, overwhelming, and poignant, all of those things."

Our last conversation took place just after the horrific events of 9/11, when your reporter observed the rehearsals of Jenkins' evening-length piece *May I Now (18 Questions in the Space of an Answer)*. That time felt raw, and this time, with the US-UK takeover of Iraq only weeks old, feels just as bad, or worse. How does the world situation affect Jenkins and her work?

"I feel more anxious," she says, "yet I feel privileged to have the work, and the people I work with. But if I had a job in an office, I'd probably just be watching CNN all day."

"I'm poised to be hopeful about our country, and our state of affairs," she says quietly but

firmly. Part of her optimism may come from how the dancemaking process frees her from her own isolation. "You go to rehearsals and do your work, and stay focused. Art is to do fully what it does and does well. Also, my interest in making work is that it does provide all kinds of interesting questions."

Her *May I Now* did ask questions and provoke. But the questions it asked, and the responses it engendered, had to come from the audience as they related to the bodies of her dancers, which showed ambivalence, tension, and, of course, the technical exactitude to let them see these things.

Jenkins' new piece, *Fractured Fictions*, set to a vaguely Asian, vaguely rock score by New Yorker Patrick Grant, is only 12 minutes long. Yet, seen at a rehearsal several Thursday afternoons ago, it seems related to its predecessor. There's the same ordered chaos, and a similar focus on rhythmic/visual cross-cutting, which seems both surprising and utterly natural. And there are the same moments of tenderness expressed between male-female dancers, and same-sex ones, which evaporate immediately, just

as in American life.

### Back to the gym

The site of the rehearsal is the high-ceilinged former gym at San Francisco's UC Berkeley Extension, which looks a bit different minus its basketball baskets, but with a timed-lighting system overhead now, and a new, black, and very danceable floor. Several members of Jenkins' company — the full corps of six girls and three guys dance in this piece — are also new. But the very fine and much-awarded poet Michael Palmer, who's worked with the dancemaker from the outset, and who's contributed ideas to *Fractured Fictions*, is still a quietly shaping force in her company. He's tall and dressed in jeans, blue shirt open at the collar, and tennis shoes. His hair is gray, and his eyes, behind his glasses, are blue and definitely serious.

Palmer is very concerned about the state of our world and our republic. "I think there's a great need for art in times like these," he says. "We have to keep open the conversation of language that's always being threatened, and that's so much threatened now by the disinformation that's being thrown out. So whatever language that art is speaking — be it visual, bodily, or words — is needed now."

"It's not so much that art provides an escape, but that it's an alternative voice," Palmer says. "Par-

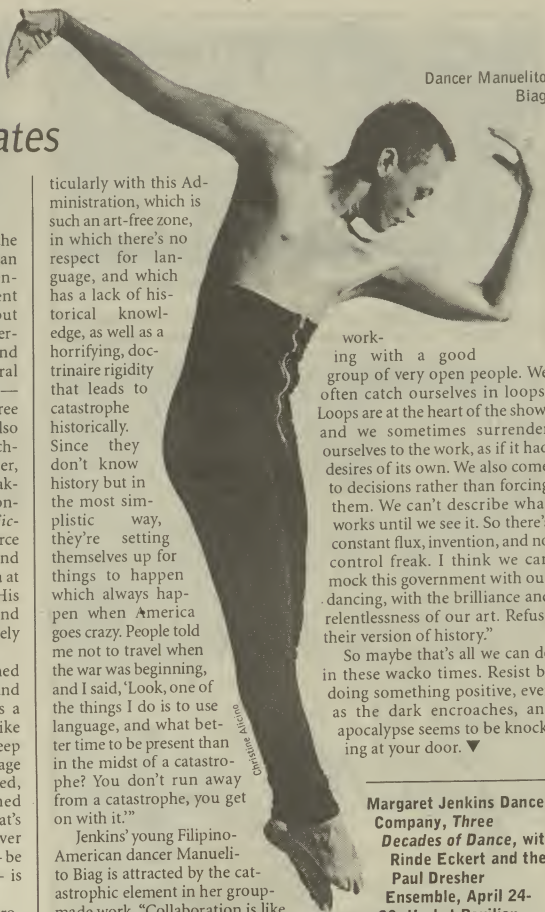
ticularly with this Administration, which is such an art-free zone, in which there's no respect for language, and which has a lack of historical knowledge, as well as a horrifying, doctrinaire rigidity that leads to catastrophe historically. Since they don't know history but in the most simplistic way, they're setting themselves up for things to happen which always happen when America goes crazy. People told me not to travel when the war was beginning, and I said, 'Look, one of the things I do is to use language, and what better time to be present than in the midst of a catastrophe? You don't run away from a catastrophe, you get on with it.'"

Jenkins' young Filipino-American dancer Manuelito Biag is attracted by the catastrophic element in her group-made work. "Collaboration is like inviting storms to come and shake your world. It's also great to be

working with a good group of very open people. We often catch ourselves in loops. Loops are at the heart of the show, and we sometimes surrender ourselves to the work, as if it had desires of its own. We also come to decisions rather than forcing them. We can't describe what works until we see it. So there's constant flux, invention, and no control freak. I think we can mock this government with our dancing, with the brilliance and relentlessness of our art. Refuse their version of history."

So maybe that's all we can do in these wacky times. Resist by doing something positive, even as the dark encroaches, and apocalypse seems to be knocking at your door. ▼

**Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, Three Decades of Dance, with Rinde Eckert and the Paul Dresher Ensemble, April 24-30, Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Ctr. Tickets: 392-4400, www.mjdc.org.**



Dancer Manuelito Biag

## Evolving women

### Encore's 'Darwin's Finches'

by Richard Dodds

The Welsh air must have been good for playwright Claire Chafee, who retreated to a corner of Britain when her follow-up plays failed to match the success of *Why We Have a Body*. This emotional and creative regrouping has resulted in a fascinating new play about a broken family gingerly trying to find new ways of fitting back together.

Chafee has said in interviews that *Darwin's Finches* is a fictionalized account of her own family, and while the details may have been changed, the emotions clamor with a veracity that lets the off-kilter specifics grow into something much broader. The quality of Chafee's script is matched step for step in the Encore Theatre Company's world-premiere production at the Thick House on Potrero Hill.

*Darwin's Finches* is billed as "a romantic comedy for the depressed," and that's true enough as far as it goes, but Chafee's play is more complex. The playwright challenges audiences to do more than simply hear her words, words that are seldom quite what is expected in any given moment. To keep an audience off-balance isn't that hard, at least not until they lose interest. But Chafee creates in this domestic tale a kind of seat-of-your-pants suspense that sustains the dialogue even when it requires that you go with it.

The play focuses on three siblings trying to cope in their adult lives despite baggage of a size that their mother must be carrying on one of those ocean liners that sell full-time residences. She has found a socially acceptable way to flee her family and its grim history.

The darker parts of that history are revealed in small doses over



Chafee's domestic tale has focus.

the course of the play, and should not be revealed here. But what is clear from the outset is that the siblings' "elegant but tenuous" parents provided no emotional underpinnings to deal with trauma. Even the navigations of day-to-day life can be painful.

That hasn't stopped the tightly wound Sophie (Amy Resnick) from becoming a successful author, though her abilities at emotional trust have been severely compromised. "I am the bearer of an unpopular memory," she says, referring to an as-yet undisclosed childhood event. But there is promise in her sometimes prickly relationship with Eve (Isabelle Ortega), an unnervingly casual translator she meets in Paris, who si-

next page ►



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# You say Iraq, I say Syria

by Victoria A. Brownworth

It's all over but the looting. Well, that and the granting of lucrative (secret, no-bid) contracts for the rebuilding effort, like the one to the SF-based Bechtel Corporation estimated to be worth \$680 million. Not only was the war on Iraq the *sine qua non* of Bush's energy policy, it was also a neat way to put cash in the pockets of Big Business contributors.

Ironically (or not), the most widely televised war in US history has also been the most covert. Despite the presence of hundreds of embedded reporters, what American audiences have seen has been a seemingly gritty but ultimately sanitized version of the real war in which thousands of Iraqis were killed.

What may actually put a nick in the Teflon of the Bush-Rumsfeld-Wolfowitz presentation of the war is TV footage that wasn't supposed to have any impact: the anarchy in the days immediately following the deposing of Saddam Hussein's regime. Smugness has always been a problem among the Bush team, and Sec. of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's press conference on the day the Baghdad antiquities museum was raided last week continues to dog the Administration. Archeologists, curators and academics worldwide have protested the way US troops did nothing to stop the looting of the museum. *Nightline* focused on this public relations nightmare for Bush and Co., replete with Rumsfeld's dismissive comments to reporters: "The media is just showing the same video [of the same looters] over and over again. How

many vases can there be?" Titters from the press corps Rumsfeld terrorizes each day.

Then the tricky little problem at the ministries of health, where looters stole some refrigerators filled with vials of deadly diseases, compounding the PR problems. Everything from AIDS and polio to black fever and Ebola are now missing. In its continued attempt to justify the war, the Bush Administration suggested there might also be biological

weaponry such as anthrax and smallpox among the missing items. Of course this suggestion only brought further attention to how badly Tommy Franks mismanaged this aspect of the war.

What we weren't shown by the embedded was the 10-thick presence of troops guarding the oil ministries in Baghdad. Those pictures *did* appear on BBC World-News television.

## Slip-slidin' away

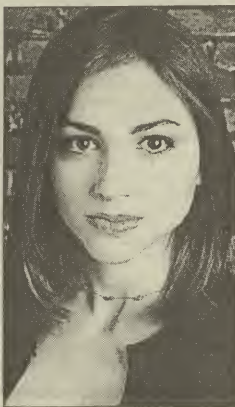
Looting wasn't the only PR problem for the Bush crew. Two wars down, and who knows how many left on the Bush agenda, and the goals of those wars have yet to be met, as TV news programs keep reiterating. Osama bin Laden (remember him?) and Saddam Hussein are MIA. The President let slip to reporters last week that military intervention into Syria "cannot be ruled out," given that Hussein could be there, and he might have taken those pesky weapons of mass destruction with him (because those fit so neatly into the pocket of a flak jacket). So stay tuned. The Bush oil *anschluss* may have just begun.

That was certainly the impression we were given when we watched National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice on (of all things) *Oprah* last week. (Oprah looks terrific with her new sportin' 'do, we might add.) The scariest woman in America presented her calm propaganda, ooops, perspective on Iraq and the future. Apparently, Syria is another anagram for oil.

Just in case one wonders about the Who's Who of imperialism these days, TV has the answer, replete with propagandistic undertones. US TV news refers to "coalition forces" (the better to convince Americans that there are military other than the US and Britain in Iraq). Connie Rice must have used the term 100 times in 10 minutes on *Oprah*. But BBC WorldNews (20,000 Brits and 200 Australians

were fighting in Iraq) refers always to "US-led forces."

With all this tragedy, it may seem beyond trivial to complain about the incessant interruptions into regular programming, particularly during daytime TV, but again it has been part of the propaganda process, not actual news. The soaps have been hit hard, unfortunately for those of us who have waited for two years to see Bianca get in bed with another woman on *All My Children*. The day is at hand, but we have missed several key scenes in the dark courtship between Bianca and Lena, the corporate raider and "Polish courtesan" (as Michael Canbeus, her sometime lover and the man who is directing her evil moves, called her last week). At presstime, Lena had just been revealed to actually be in love with Bianca. Cut to a non-news confer-



Edén Riegel as Bianca on AMC

ence by Rumsfeld. Arghhh! Stay tuned, if you can. The luscious Lena and the budding baby butch Bianca may yet be headed for the sheets.

Alas, there appears never to be war news in prime-time, and thus Monica Lewinsky's debut as host for the incredibly creepy FOX reality show *Mr. Personality* went off without a hitch last week. Lewinsky, certainly our choice as an advisor to women on men, gets to advise a woman trying to choose a man from among several masked (yes, masked; the guys all look like rapists; very creepy) men. High ick factor, though the now-29-year-old Lewinsky, herself having trouble dating (can't imagine why) as she told *ET* in an exclusive last week, is looking quite fetching. She really just wants to put that "whole thing" (that would be the impeachment of a President, dear) behind her. ▼

## Darwin's Finches

◀ previous page

multaneously translates one of Sophie's lectures with hilarious results.

Younger sister GiGi (Kate Sheehan) blossoms when she's teaching at her grade school, but is afraid of even a ringing phone when she's home alone. She can barely cope when her schizophrenic brother (Gabriel Carter), escorted by his full-time guardian (Warren Keith), pays a visit designed to address an unthinkable past incident.

On James Faerron's austere but stylish set, Lisa Steindler has directed Chafee's play with sensitivity, strength and nuance. The uniformly excellent cast brings these

awkwardly faceted characters to believable life.

The play's title refers to the Galapagos Islands finches that contributed to Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. But at one point, Sophie challenges the notion of survival of the fittest, or at least of the historical notion of what constitutes a fit member of the human species.

*Darwin's Finches*, promised as the first part of a trilogy, is a play that digs deep to find the humanity in its humans. What Chafee is promoting for herself and for her audiences is the courage to dig. ▼

**Darwin's Finches** will run through May 11 at the Thick House. Tickets (\$20): call 821-4849.

## FILM

Tanabe Seichi as Katsuhiko, a man longing to build a family with his boyfriend, in Hashiguchi Ryosuke's *Hush*.

## Subversive in Japan

'Hush' takes on family values at the Castro

by David Lamble

You have a father's eyes." A young Japanese woman utters these words to a young man she knows to be gay but in the closet, which makes him a perfect candidate for a little project she has in mind.

In *Hush*, opening Friday at the Castro Theatre, Asako (Kataoka Reiko) spends her days sculpting crowns and bridges at a dentist's office, and her nights sleeping with pretty boys who like sex without rubbers. A visit to her gynecologist produces some unsettling news: sleeping around has given her fibroid cysts. Her doctor matter-of-factly suggests that she have a hysterectomy. Asako has an unpleasant ride home with her grouchy, old cab-driver father. Approaching 30, Asako finds that the men in her life are a pain in the ass.

Having lunch at a suburban noodle shop, she spots a pair of young men in a booth whom she immediately suspects are lovers. Leaving the restaurant, one of the pair, Katsuhiko (Tanabe Seichi), offers her the loan of his umbrella, to the dismay of his boyfriend, Naoya (Takahashi Kazuya), who has a hunch that this may not be a completely innocent encounter.

Later that night, Asako breaks Katsuhiko's umbrella over the dyed head of her snarky little boyfriend. Using the return of a new umbrella as a pretext, Asako boldly confronts Katsuhiko at his workplace (an indoor water-tank used to test boat designs), shocking him both with her knowledge of his relationship with Naoya, and her proposal that she and Katsuhiko make a baby together, without the bother of sex or any messy romance.

Upon hearing the proposal, Naoya is furious and tries to sabotage Asako's plan by inviting her out for a grim night at a local gay bar. Asako endures cruel and crude teasing from one of Naoya's buddies, a boorish twink. Leaving the bar, Asako lets Naoya know she's onto his game, and she's sticking to her plan to have a child by Katsuhiko.

### Heady mix

Director Hashiguchi Ryosuke's film is a comedy based on the weird specificity of Japanese family values. What begins with a pretty boy nerd of an engineer trying to sneak out of a one-night-stand with an openly gay lad with strong nesting instincts winds up becoming, in the end, a far bolder and complicated menage.

As Katsuhiko and Naoya start playing house, they are confronted with the volcanic differences in their personalities and aims in life: Katsuhiko, with his fear of not coming out as gay at a workplace dominated by drunken frat-boys and husband-seeking spinsters, while at the same avoiding being alone in a society where family ties are everything.

Naoya has less to fear being out, what with his low-status job at an eccentric pet shop (in a spoof of pet-centered lunacy, with parallels to the innovative human breeding experiments going on). Also, Naoya has had to fight for his freedom to live with a man, with his dragon-lady of a mother who keeps pestering him to go for a fake marriage. Naoya's mom adds nutty energy to the climactic scene where Katsuhiko's family goes into a frenetic tizzy that will either lead to meltdown or lift-off.

Despite its complicated subplots, family histrionics and slow pacing, *Hush* is a small gem of a social comedy with a solid core cast. Like Ang Lee's *Wedding Banquet*, it uses the recipe of two gay guys, a girl and a baby to turn respectable Asian family mores upside-down and inside-out. ▼

Plays the Castro April 25-30.

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# OUT & ABOUT



Scott Wells and Gitta Sivander dance the night away in "at 848" at — where else? — 848 Community Space. See Friday.

## Calendare by Mark Mardon



Nick Dong's "The Enlightenment Room" at Atelier Studio Gallery

## Enlightenment

**F**ine-art photographer James Scott Geras, who is famed in the San Francisco leather community and beyond for his side hobby — capturing the beefy images that adorn the *SoMa Bare Chest Calendars* — runs a wonderful art space in the Castro, Atelier Studio Gallery, along with his partner, the painter Daniel Tounsignant, and the two of them are welcoming the public to another grand suarée in honor of artist Nick Dong's brilliant new installation, "The Enlightenment Room," opening at Atelier on Saturday, April 26, with a champagne reception from 4-10 p.m.

In addition to showcasing their own works in the elegant space, Geras and Tounsignant regularly devote gallery space to the works of outside, cutting-edge artists. Parties for their openings have been high-profile affairs, with all the gay and art-world glitterati in attendance. Their successes have made them the talk of the town — and certainly the toast of the Castro.

Dong's temple installation consists of a 4' x 14' x 8' chamber with seat constructed of 15,000 hand-made porcelain tiles lit from within by 633 LEDs in a 24kt gold lamp. The lamp is triggered when one sits on the stool in the darkness. Gradually the light brightens to full intensity, bringing that moment of full-awakening.

To sit in the chair — which sells for a breathtaking \$105,000 — you must wear white to the party; if not, a white lab coat will be provided. The event is free of charge and open to the public; however you must RSVP your chair-sitting reservation.

In his artist's statement, Dong says he is drawn to aspects of the material in his work that "can be precious, delicate, smooth, elegant and refined." Certainly he attains a high degree of sensuousness in "The Enlightenment Room," with its seductive smoothness and soothing lights. He works in mixed-media installations, such as this one, as well as in metalsmithing. In drawing people in, he hopes to make them aware of his concerns for our culture and living condition. A meditation space is just what the doctor ordered.

"I want to create an environment and provide a rich experience that contains multiple sensations," explains Dong, and clearly he's up to the task. ▼

Atelier Studio Gallery is located at 2354 Market St. (penthouse). To attend the reception on Saturday, April 26 (4-10pm), RSVP at (415) 861-8216. Info: [www.atelier142.com](http://www.atelier142.com)

## Fri 25

### National Dance Week

**@ Metronome Ballroom**  
Kick-off Party: Celebrate the opening of National Dance Week in style at Metronome Ballroom. Partake of Salsa and Hip Hop lessons, a Dance Award ceremony, Ballroom, Latin, Swing, and freestyle dancing, Hors D'oeuvres and drinks, and a Silent Auction. \$10-\$20 sliding. 7pm-12am (dance lessons 7:30-8:30pm). 1830 17th St. (De Haro). Tix/info: 561-1433; [www.bacndw.org](http://www.bacndw.org)

### Scott Wells & Dancers

**@ 848 Community Space**  
"at 848," in which Scott Wells & Dancers celebrate their 10th Anniversary Season with three works including "Together? Again?" featuring Jesellito Bie (SteamRoller) with Erika Shuch as co-director; a high velocity (untitled) premiere with Gitta Sivander (European Acrobat); and "On the Rebound," a classic from Wells repertoire. \$15. Fri-Sun, Apr 25-27; Thu-Sun, May 1-11 (Free performance April 27 in honor of National Dance Week). 848 Community Space/counterPulse, 848 Divisadero St. Tix/info: 931-8648; [www.848.com](http://www.848.com)

**'Migrations' @ ODC Theater**  
ODC School, ODC Theater, im'ji-re, and Fresh Meat Productions present: "Migrations," new dances from SF's most promising choreographers. Sean Dorsey carves new space for queer and transgendered bodies. Amy Seiwert makes ballet history as a female choreographer, an independent artist, and an award-winning innovator. \$12-\$15 sliding. Fri & Sat, April 25 & 26 at 8pm. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834.

### SF Buffoons @ JSCA

The Jon Sims Center for the Arts presents AIRspace artists-in-residence, the SF Buffoons, in "Divided We Fall," a tragicomic exploration of love and mayhem. Commedia dell'arte high jinks complemented by live music by Andrew Kushin and Scott Jacobson. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### 'Time After Time' @ YBCA

Opening night party: "Time After Time: Asia and Our Moment," a major exhibition of contemporary art from Asia that addresses concepts of time. \$10 adv, \$12 door (FREE for Members and 1 guest). 8-11pm. Grand Lobby, Forum & Galleries. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St at 3rd. Tix/info: 978-ARTS (2787); [YerbaBuenaArts.org](http://YerbaBuenaArts.org)

### 'Meeting Game' Salon'

**@ The Center**  
Joel Kossood's "The Meeting Game" Salon," in which 50-100 gay/bi men gather to meet, a few at a time. \$20 adv; \$25 door. 7-10pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 415-864-3500; 510-525-6207; [www.MeetingGame.com/gay](http://www.MeetingGame.com/gay)

### ing @ Curve Bar

ing, the suffix-named band with a distinctive queer bent (Mark Smotroff, Sean Mylett, Ty Gerhardt, Lliam Hart), play their old and future hits, including "Not Dead, Not Dying," the Britpop gem "Better Don't Do," the pile-driving "Brotherhood Way," the southern-tinged stomper "Connect in Grey," and the soulful country-western dirge "Miracle Song." With Eoin and Migga. \$5. Show starts 9pm; ing on at 11pm. 747 3rd St. Tix/info: 896-2286; [www.ingdom.com](http://www.ingdom.com)

### 42nd St. Moon's 'Roberta'

**@ Eureka Theatre**  
Opening night: 42nd Street Moon presents "Roberta," a 1933 gem from Jerome Kern and Otto Harbach, guest starring film actress Kathryn Crosby. The adventures of an American football jock who inherits a Parisian dress salon and falls in love with an exiled

Russian princess. Directed by Greg MacKellan, with music direction by Dave Dobrusky. \$29 Sat & Sun; \$27 Thu & Fri; \$20 students/seniors. 8pm Thu & Fri; 6pm Sat (plus 1pm May 17); 3pm Sun. Eureka Theatre, 215 Jackson St. Tix/info: YBCA Box Office, 978-2787; [42ndStMoon.org](http://42ndStMoon.org)

### Mark Morris @ Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley

University Dance Theater Spring 2003 Season presents Program A: Mark Morris's "Canonic 3/4 Studies," Anne Westwick's "Silver Threads," David Wood's "In the Glade," and the world premiere of Christopher Dolder's "Day," with original music by David Rosenfeld. \$14 gen'l; \$10 faculty/staff; \$8 students/seniors. 8pm (also May 3 at 8pm, and April 26 & May 4 at 2pm). UC Berkeley campus, on Spieker plaza near the corner of Bancroft & Dana. Tix/info: 866-468-3399; [ticketweb.com; theater.berkeley.edu](http://ticketweb.com; theater.berkeley.edu)

### 'Musical Genius' @ Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

Opening night: Not Quite Opera presents the musical comedy "Musical Genius," by writer/director/composer Anne Nygren-Doherty. It's a wild and hilariously heart-warming show set in the early Great Depression, wherein atonal-musician boy John Crumb (Len Schaffer) meets Violet Rose (Gina Latimerlo), a boop-a-doop girl in a broken down church where gangster Carrot Cohan (Douglas Mendell) holds them hostage along with in-the-closet cowboy-minstrel-minister Reverend Roach (Rich Ricchetta), who runs the joint. \$20 (\$15 students/seniors). 8pm Thu-Sat; 7pm Sun thru May 18. 953 DeHaro St. Tix/info: 682-0159; [www.notquiteopera.org](http://www.notquiteopera.org)

### 'Runway' @ mezzanine

Runway & Silver Sun present "Runway: Counter-Couture 4," a fashion show & mini mart, with live performances by Crimson Club and Anton Styles, dance vibes by DJs David Harness, Charles Spencer, and Jay-J, and fashions by more than a dozen Bay Area designers. \$20. 9pm-4am. 21+ w/ID. 440 Jessie (at Mint). Info: 695-9100; [runwayfashionshow.com](http://runwayfashionshow.com)

## Sat 26

### SF L/G Freedom Band

**@ Everett Middle School**  
Jadine Louie conducts the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band 25th Anniversary Concert, "The Beat Goes On..." presented in regal style with the help of Off-Broadway Queen Trauma Flintstone; the Absolute Empress I Widow Norton (Jose Sarria); and celebrity chanteuse Empress XXX Donna Sachet. Sneak preview of a new documentary about the band by William Green, looking back to the early days of building a gay neighborhood in the Castro. \$20 gen'l; \$15 children, seniors, groups; \$40 w/VIP reception in Bethany Gardens. 7pm. Everett Middle School Auditorium, 450 Church St. Tix: 865-3650. Info: 255-1355; [www.sflgb.org](http://www.sflgb.org)



Kathryn Crosby, Steve Rhyne, and Lesley Hamilton in *Roberta* at Eureka Theatre. See Friday.

### 'The Cure' @ Jon Sims Center

The Jon Sims Center for the Arts, in association with Asian American Theater Company, Youth Speaks, and Locust Arts, presents "The Cure," by Joel Barraquiel Tan and Ginu Kamani, a staged reading and workshop of a new play. Set in Hollywood in 1993, "The Cure" is a tragicomedy about AIDS Inc. that blends Indian spirituality into a romantic tale entrenched in the AIDS crisis. It weaves the story of Winston Chao (Leon Goertzen) as the "new face of AIDS" battling with his viatical-digging lover Harmony (Keilleil-DeLeon Frazier) at the Living OM weekend retreat run by Jeanne (Rosemary Maciel) and Polly (Sareeka Malhotra). Elvis (Rajiv Shah), descends from the heavens as the Indian spiritual god Shiva. \$10 (\$7 seniors/students/members). 12 noon (followed by Q&A). Also 6pm Sun., April 27 (followed by a reception). 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & South Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### 'Big Stuff'

### @ Jon Sims Center

The Jon Sims Center for the Arts presents "BIG STUFF: No She Didn't," an evening of multimedia performance curated by Jaime Cortez. Featuring performance diva Veronica C. Combs (Liquid Fire Mafia); musician/provocateur Tony Vaguely (Sick & Twisted Players); and Ray Ferrer as dizzy drag comedienne Coco Lopez. \$7-\$12 sliding (NOTAFL0F). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & South Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### University Dance Theater @ Zellerbach Playhouse

University Dance Theater Spring 2003 Season presents Program B: Janice Garrett's "Hither Thither," the world premiere of Marri Thomas' "Working Order," Christopher Dolder's "Riverboy," and Ellis Wood's "Entropy." \$14 gen'l; \$10 faculty/staff; \$8 students/seniors. 8pm (also May 2 at 8pm, April 27 at 7pm, & May 3 at 2pm). UC Berkeley campus, on Spieker plaza near the corner of Bancroft & Dana. Tix/info: 866-468-3399; [theater.berkeley.edu](http://theater.berkeley.edu)

### Gay night at 'Roberta'

### @ Eureka Theatre

"Saturday Night Out," a special LGBT edition of 42nd Street Moon's "Roberta." Enjoy the show and the gay reception. \$29. 8pm. 215 Jackson St. Tix/info: YBCA Box Office, 978-2787; [www.42ndStMoon.org](http://www.42ndStMoon.org)

### 'LIT' @ Kevin Grady Art/Glass Studio

Opening reception: "LIT," interactions between glass and light, featuring works by local glass artists (including gay & lesbian blowers) Jerry Kung, Prax Gore, Jamie Guerrero, David LeCheminant, Mark Rubnitz and others. Free. 5-10pm. Kevin Grady Art Glass Design Studio, 2345 Market St. (btwn Castro & Noe), Penthouse. Info: [www.kevingrady.com](http://www.kevingrady.com)

### Face to Face auctions

### @ Dance Center, Santa Rosa

Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network presents "Inside/Out," the 1st Annual Wine Auction (4-6:30pm Saturday, April 26; \$25 admission) and the 2nd annual Home & Garden Auction (2-6pm Sunday, April 27; free admission). Bid on art, building supplies, fountains, furniture, gardening, topiary and more. 56 W. 6th St., Railroad Square, Santa Rosa. Info: 415-544-1581.

**'Fetish Ball' @ DNA Lounge**

Madame S and Mr. S Leather present the "San Francisco Fetish Ball," featuring London's Torture Garden (TG), DJ Allen TG, Masumi Max & Luci Fire (TG), Allen Falkner (TSD) and more. Fashions by Madame S., Pui-mond, & TG. \$25 adv, \$35 door. 375 - 11th St. 21 +w/ID. Info: 863-9447; www.madame-s.com

**Sun 27****Betty's 50th @ The Center**

Betty's List/Sullivan Communications diva Betty Sullivan is turning 50, time to throw a big party to benefit the Lesbian Health Research Center. Reception & silent auction. Labyrinth walk. Entertainment. Dance with DJ Page Hodel. \$50. 3:30-8:30pm. Ceremonial Room, LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 861-1637

**Voices: Lesbian Choral Ensemble @ La Peña**

In Berkeley: Yulia Ronskaya directs Voices: Lesbian Choral Ensemble, in "Songs for Peace, Love, and Other Necessary Things." Musical selections from many styles and cultures, including folk, jazz, classical and contemporary. \$8 adv; \$10 door. 4pm. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. Tix/info: A Different Light Bookstore (SF); Modern Times Bookstore (SF); Boadecia's Books (Kensington). Info: 510-486-8984; www.lesbian.org/voices

**Golden Gate Men's Chorus @ Eagle Tavern**

Golden Gate Men's Chorus host their annual beverage benefit with an auction and raffle drawing for fab prizes (weekend lodging at Lake Tahoe; dinner for 8 cooked in your home by the Main Chef and Pastry Chef of Scala's Bistro; dinner for 6 created in your home by Spencer, the Main Chef of the Paragon and Claremont Hotel Restaurant). The Eureka Barbershop will be cutting hair and donating the proceeds to the chorus. Info: www.ggmc.org

**LGBT parenting @ JFCS, Greenbrae**

Jewish Family and Children's Services presents a "Dinner & Discussion for Parents of LGBT Children." Meet other Jewish parents who have LGBT or questioning offspring. Talk about ways to make your Jewish community more welcoming and safe. Rabbi Sydney Mintz of Temple Emanu-El will co-host. The dinner will take place at 6pm at a private home in Greenbrae in Marin. Info: 449-1228; email MargaretR@jfcs.org.

**JFCS 'Rebuilding Together' @ SF neighborhoods**

Join a crew of LGBT volunteers to help rehabilitate SF homes belonging to low-income families, the elderly and people with disabilities. Work with volunteers from JFCS and the rest of SF in performing this mitzvah. Event takes place throughout SF. Info: email MargaretR@jfcs.org; phone 449-1228.

**Bay Area Models Guild @ Merritt College**

The Bay Area Models Guild holds its quarterly "Drawing Marathon," with nude and costumed models in individual and group poses. \$20 half day; \$30 full day (\$20 seniors; \$25 students). 10am-1pm & 1:30-4:30pm. Art Bldg. A122. Oakland (from SF take 580 East, exit 35th, turn left, then right on Campus Drive and left into Merritt College campus. Continue around the back to the Art Bldg.). Info: 510-524-9763.

**PAWS @ Best in Show**

Pets are Wonderful Support (PAWS) and Chronicle Books host a reception for *Pads for Pets*, the new book by Elizabeth Quin chock-full of ideas for creative abodes for your favorite pets. Free. 1-3pm. 300 Sanchez St.

**'Score!' @ Club 220**

Don Spradlin (HellBall; REUNION) presents "Score!" a monthly after-hours dance party with resident DJ DerekJuan and guest DJs Gryder & Hughes, plus DJs Greg Suioishi and David Wade in the downstairs Arena. Tonight a porno scene will be filmed from 2-4am featuring Ragging Stallion Video superstar Michael Brandon (xxxmichaelbrandon.com). \$10 B4 3am; \$15 after. 220 Jones St. (2 blk



ing play out at the Curve Bar. See Friday.

from 6th & Market). Tix at Body Body Wear. Info: www.scorebig.net

**Mon 28****'QComedy' @ The Center**

QComedy presents Monday night queer comedy hosted by Adam Sandel, with guests Doug Holsclaw, Dana Cory, Erin Souza, Diane Gralewski, Tom Smith, Lori Bradley, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding (NO-TAFLOR). Doors 7:30pm; show at 8pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Tix: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org

**Tue 29****Contact Improv Jam @ 848 Community Space**

In honor of National Dance Week, Ron Estes and Leslie Setters present the skills necessary to begin exploring the wild ride of Contact Improvisation. 6-7pm. Followed 7-11pm by "Contact Improvisation Jam," the Bay Area's longest running jam — Free! RSVP/info: 922-2385; www.848.com

**Wed 30****'All Contact, All Improv' @ 848 Community Space**

Free performance celebrating the delight and audience-thrilling magic of contact improvisation. Stick around and try out your new inspiration at the jam. Curated by Sonya Smith, featuring Ray Chung, Samantha Beers & Sean Seward, Rachel Lincoln & Leslie Setters, Rachel Shaw & Bill McCully, and teachers from the West Coast Contact Improv Festival. 8pm. RSVP/info: 922-2385; www.848.com

**National Dance Week @ SFPALM**

The SF Performing Arts Library & Museum celebrates National Dance Week with a presentation on the LEGACY Oral History Project's documentation services for the dance, music and theater communities, plus screenings of three dance films honoring Anna Halprin. 6pm LEGACY Intro (free); 7:30pm screenings (\$8 gen'; \$4 students/members). Veteran's Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave (at McAllister), 4th floor. Info: 255-4800; www.sfpalm.org

**'Rocky Horror' @ The Center**

Movie Night on The Center's BIG screen presents *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, the mother of all divine decadence. Sing along in black fishnet

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\$20 adv/\$25 day of event • Tix/Info: 415-864-3500 • Doors open at 6:30pm

**Thu 1****'Ba-da-BINGO' @ MCC-SF**

The sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Ba-da-BINGO," the wild, wacky hit. Tonight: "Extortion Bingo!" Wear your best zoot suit and make Tony Soprano blush. Noted performer/author Erika Lopez joins as guest MC. \$12 entry gets you 10 games with cash prizes totaling more than \$1,700, special gifts, a chance to win a digital camera, and entertainment galore. Best mafia outfit wins \$50 cash! Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: www.BadaBingo.org

**CCAC Fashion Show @ Design Center Galleria**

The California College of Arts and Crafts (CCAC) Fashion Design Dept. presents the "CCAC Senior Collection Fashion Show," a runway extravaganza featuring original designs, professional models, music and an atmosphere of high energy and crackling excitement. \$10. 8pm doors; 8:30pm show. 101 Henry Adams. Info: 703-9519. Tix: door or ticketweb.com

**Los Cybrids @ USF**

Los Cybrids: La Raza Techno-Crítica (digital artist John Jota Leães, performance/digital artist René García, multi-disciplinary artist Mónica Prabarhilar) perform burla and high-tech art to challenge their audience to think about the social, cultural and environmental consequences of information technologies. Free. 7:30pm. University of San Francisco's Lone Mountain Campus, 2800 Turk Blvd., Room 148. Info: 422-6147 or 422-5061.

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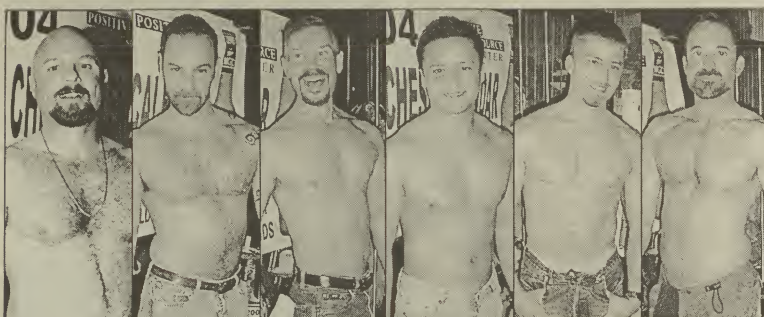
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July: J. Michael Lieden, Aug.: George Delmar, Sept.: James Holloway, Oct.: Engracio Clemena, Nov.: D. Lemier, Dec.: Chris Harrill

## Wish upon a bare chest

### Who's the hunkiest of them all?

by Mister Marcus

The 2004 SoMa Bare Chest Calendar contests are finished. Last Thursday night, April 17, five men stepped up to vie for the Mr. December 2004 spot. When judges Audrey Joseph, Dax Berg, Glennon Sutter and James Scott Geras tallied their votes, a strikingly handsome Oakland man, Chris Harrill, won the December 2004 page.

On Saturday, the 12 gathered at Atelier Gallery for a Meet & Greet, and to be briefed as to the coming months.

Know that the 2004 calendar will be rolling into production within a week after the cover-man competition taking place Thursday night, April 24 at the Power-

house. The calendar will be ready in May and will make its premier appearance in the leather mart at International Mr. Leather in Chicago on Memorial Day weekend.



The competitions for the 2004 edition started on January 9. On that night, \$46,687.50 was divided evenly between the AIDS Emergency Fund and Positive Resources Center, proceeds from the sale of the 2003 calendar. The steering committee for the 2004 calendar hopes to exceed that amount with the new calendar. Be the first in your circle of friends to obtain the calendar when it goes on sale in San Francisco.

#### Big weekend in D.C.

By the time you read this, hun-

dreds of leather folk will be assembled in Washington, D.C. for the big American Brotherhood Weekend at the Washington Plaza Hotel April 24-27.

From our home state, the California Leather Family will be competing for the American Leatherman, American Leatherwoman and American Leatherboy titles. The contenders are Bill Mitchell of San Diego, Dean "Vibby" Bramlett of Los Angeles and Jeff Nowak of San Francisco. They won their titles in July 2002 on Dore Alley Weekend and will be among several leather "families" from various US states, regions and cities.

Several of the IML 2003 "hopefuls" will be on hand to network, schmooze and get to know each other before they arrive in Chicago in May. ABW is always a great time to visit Washington. As I'm a

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, April 24

Finale of the 2004 SoMa Bare Chest Calendar "season" as all 12 winners compete for the cover spot. The runner-up will grace the back cover. At the Powerhouse at 9:30pm sharp!

### Weekend, April 25-27

American Brotherhood Weekend in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Plaza Hotel. Choosing American Leather Man, Woman & Boy. I'll be judging so you'll get the results here first!

### Saturday, April 26

The 15 Association monthly play party at usual location, \$15 guests/\$10 members. For info 415-673-0452.

You're in Rome, Italy and looking for leather action? Check out the Mr. Leather Italy 2003 contest at Club JAM (via del Cardello 16/A) also known as "Gladiator City"....lots of European leather stars will be on hand.

### Wednesday, April 30

Golden Shower Buddies will wash away your blues at 933 Harrison tonight. The usual protocol with doors open 2100-2300. For more info call 777-HEAD.

Another SM 101 Class at the Powerhouse when Rod Wood expounds on bondage, flogging and

slave training. Hey, it's free!

### Weekend, May 2-4

Regiment of Black & Tans annual Spring Maneuvers. For more info, click on [www.blackandtans.org](http://www.blackandtans.org).

Utica Tri's MC in Utica, NY celebrate 17th anniversary with a \$75 fee for all amenities. For more info, go to [www.UticaTris.com](http://www.UticaTris.com).

Virginia Leather Sir and Boy contest is the highlight of the Knight Hawks of Virginia MC 10th anniversary weekend. \$105 for the whole thing which includes some unique activities.

Dyke Daddy & Dyke Diva contest in San Francisco with a meet & greet party at Daddy's Baron Friday. Contest is Saturday at 550 Barnveld Ave., and there's a play party afterward at the Scenery in Hayward. Victory brunch on Sunday at Harvey's SoMa

### Saturday, May 3

Will Clark's 3rd Annual Bad Boys Pool Party in Palm Springs with hordes of cock-crazy people on hand. Click on [www.badboyspoolparty.com](http://www.badboyspoolparty.com).

### Saturday, May 10

9th Annual Mr. Triple R Leather contest at the Triple R in Guerneville. Always a fun getaway. Trek up there and have some fun.

## PORN

# Grope therapy

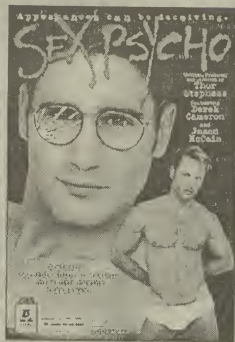
by John F. Karr

A movie title like *Sex Psycho* scares me. It signals plotting so convoluted and characters so distraught that whatever pleasures the sex scenes were meant to convey will be undercut, if not entirely counteracted. Despite my apprehension, though, I had to watch *Sex Psycho* because I'm devoted to its star, the incomparably beautiful Derek Cameron. He's a golden boy with a gracious physique, and his lusty abandon is imbued with romantic fervor.

Well, surprise. Without an excess of indulgence, you can actually watch *Sex Psycho* for entertainment, as the box cover suggests (although it also dispels whatever suspense the plot may have had by revealing who the psycho is). And you can most certainly watch it to get off. Because no matter how convoluted and unbelievable writer and director Thor Stephens' story gets, and the applicable qualifier would be "very," his strong sexual set-pieces

override their circumstances. Most appreciably, Stephens elicits a devout focus from his performers, and doesn't hurry them through the standard progression of sex acts. There's nothing rote as Stephens encourages ample foreplay, lots of cock display, and impressively worshipful cocksucking, before the inevitable fuck.

Here's what's going on. The patients of Dr. McCain (played by the attractive Jason McCain) explain their sexual disorders to each other during highly unorthodox group-therapy sessions. One of the clients, suffering priapism, strokes his exposed hard-on throughout everyone's tales, and is encouraged instead of stopped. "That's great," the doctor says to him. "You're opening up." The doctor's facilitation and the patient's disorders are completely bogus, but our suspension of disbelief is eased by the



guys' likeability. Stephens has cast well. Gregg Rockwell, with the perpetual hard-on, is a hot-wired little bundle. Burly Paul Johnson is laid-back and butch. Sal

Corelli is a mouth-watering antipasto. And Derek, who suffers blackouts, speaks with a thick-tongued drawl that fluffs his beauty with semi-intoxicated allure.

In the movie's sex scenes,

each of the guys is seen out of class, as it were, being enabled in their disorders by some exciting partners, or being manipulated into their disorder by the doctor (oops, hope I'm not giving anything away. The box warns me not to reveal the surprise ending, so even though the only thing surprising about it is its incredulity, I'm mum, baby, mum).

## Picture this

What does make my mouth gape is the movie's focused, salacious sex. The high point is the scene where studly Paul Johnson gives into his desire to have sex in public places by putting the make on granitic slab Jon Ashe in the lobby of the doctor's building. Traffic zooms by, and pedestrians gawk into the office's picture window. But that doesn't distract from the intense scene of mutual

seduction the men are playing out. Johnson's slow strip sizzles, and Ashe responds by hauling out a bulgingly veined whopper. Holy pontoons, this guy's got a floater! He slams it fiercely into Johnson's curvaceous and willing ass, bringing them to an exciting simultaneous climax that's churned up by the whammer fuck, not subsequent j/o. With videography, editing, and music enhancing some great sex, this is swell porn.

But it's Derek Cameron we came to see, and his two scenes are spellbinding. Even though he has to sustain the plot elements both are laced with, he's so sexually abandoned, and so gloated upon by the camera, that the scenes don't succumb. He's first seen picking up thick daddy Ben Archer while cruising Land's End. The harsh natural lighting reveals an incipient Clint Eastwood-ness in Cameron's beauty; his youthful prettiness is turning quite masculinely rugged. The way he gets entirely lost in having sex is hypnotic, and he's so skilled that Archer spontaneously growls, "Damn, whatta cocksucker!"

But even Cameron's impressive oral skills are upstaged in the movie's finale when his gently puckered asshole gets a moist rimming. Jason McCain is crazed for that sweet and dewy hole, nuzzling into it with great gulps of ass-guzzling hunger. It's sensational. Then Derek lies across the desk and parts his cheeks provocatively. I almost cheered when McCain throws one heavily booted foot upon the desktop to straddle Derek like Hercules the Himalayas, and plunges a mighty fuck into his ass while Derek furiously pounds the tabletop with his fists. McCain is given to dirty talk and gleefully lascivious laughter while fucking; whether character-driven or (hopefully) natural, That's Entertainment. The bofo partnering Mr. Cameron receives ensures both he and his fans will find *Sex Psycho* memorable. ▼

[www.thorsss.com](http://www.thorsss.com); (323) 397-5800



## Karnal Knowledge

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

judge for the competition again this year, you'll be the first to know the results of the weekend — right here!

## Leather world day of caring

Last Saturday April 19 was the Leather Day of Caring for the homeless across the nation. Countless leather groups accepted the mandate of Ms. World Leather Karen McGee and the Ms. World Leather organization to rally with benefits for the homeless in their communities. In Chicago, Club Quest staged an event at the world-famous Cell Block Bar and raised some \$8,135 for AIDS Care. In New York City, Mr. Lure Walt Weiss, Mr. NY Eagle Mike Tully, Mr. Metro Bear David Nigro and NE Leather Sir Scott Hill hosted a "Socks & Underwear" benefit and received six huge shopping bags full of those items for the homeless shelters in Manhattan. It was a nationwide showing of leather pride, caring and love. Great effort!

## The Dildeaux Awards

It was another hilarious night of camp and circumstance at the

Eagle Tavern last Saturday night as the Golden Gate Guards staged their 6th presentation of the world's only sex awards, the Golden Dildeaux competition.

Donna Sachet, fittingly attired in a gold lamé gown, shared the MC honors with Lenny Broberg. From the moment it started, it was a three-hour sequence of spicy, barbed quips and biting remarks about each other and almost everyone in the audience. The wall-to-wall crowd roared with laughter as holy cow after holy cow was stripped bare of dignity — all in fun, of course — as the winners of the voting were announced. If you were there, you probably had a stomach ache the next day after laughing so much. The ever-funny "Lurch" did a hilarious stand-up routine, and Mark Paladini soothed the ruffled crowd with an appropriate lyrical number.

The results of your voting:

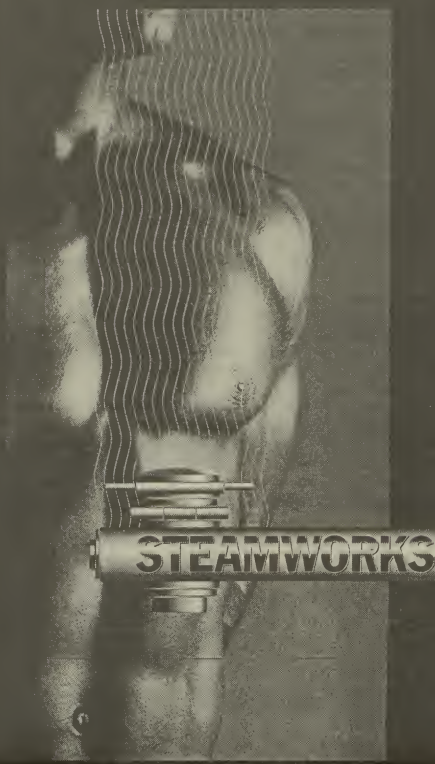
- Punchboard Award: **Michael Schaefer**
- Top of the Year: **Alan Selby**
- Golden Globes: **Kevin Kropp**
- Golden Arm: **Alan Selby**
- Best Male Performance by a Drag Queen: **Snatch**
- Paper Wedding Dress (3rd time in a row): **Ray Tilton**
- Sliver Lips: **Guess who?**

- Voyeur of the Year: **Jimmy @ Daddy's**
- Leap Frog: **Warren Williams**
- Cob Web Award: **"Mama" Reinhardt**
- Best Performance in 3-Ways: **Jeff, Mike & David**
- Prince of Piss: **Scott King**
- Tea Room Commando: **Chico Garcia**
- Divine Miss M: **Paul Lester**
- Size Queen: **Chris Altman**
- Best Female Perf. By a Male Impersonator: **Suzie Wong**
- Cocksucker of The Year: **Tom Galante**
- Dick of Death: **Phil Garabedian**
- Pushy Bottom: **"Pushy" Phyllis**
- Bootlicker: **"Hobbit" Harring**
- Golden Boy 2003 (for best all around sex): **Ryan de la Cruz**, a cute young waiter at the Chow Restaurant.

Fun-filled and charitable leather events are on the horizon as we look forward to ABW, IML, ImsL, Ms. World Leather, and the Leather Sir/Boy competitions, and already the IML 2004 Class are being chosen around the country.

For the latest news from columnists worldwide, regularly click on [www.leatherpage.com](http://www.leatherpage.com). ▼

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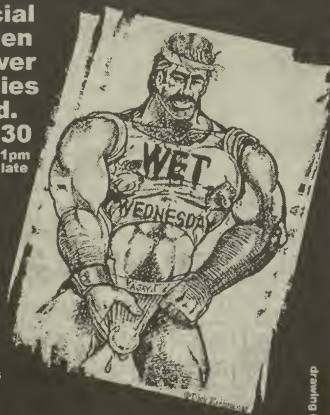
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## Freedom Band

Arts cover

it was time to pin down those legends. Green and Hoover have recorded a decade of performances, and Hoover has restored archival film and audio recordings of some landmark concerts. Interviews with band members, conductors and community leaders supplement that media. The resulting documentary on the band's history will show how it parallels the emergence and growth of the Gay Castro. A work-in-progress preview of the doc opens the band's 25th anniversary celebration this Saturday, April 26, at Everett Middle School, where the band gave its first concert 25 years ago. The celebration also features sing-alongs; appearances by Trauma Flintstone, José Sarria and Donna Sachet; an archival display; and a multimedia show.

## Great fanfare

When people tell you about the band's beginnings, invariably they

want to explain the political climate of the Castro in 1978. The Castro had only a few gay-owned businesses. Bars were virtually the only social setting for gay people. The gay community had just elected Harvey Milk, the nation's first openly gay man politician, to the board of supes. In reaction to the gay lib movement, Anita Bryant was campaigning to roll back gay rights in Florida, and California Senator John Briggs sponsored an initiative that would ban gays and lesbians from teaching in this state.

In '78, gays' rights as American citizens were openly debated. In the '78 Pride Parade, Milk rode in an open convertible up Market St., the gay community's elected official parading up "Main Street" in its hometown parade. When Jon Sims introduced an American marching band to the tableau, claiming a piece of American culture for the Castro, the response was resounding.

"It began with great fanfare," said Ambassador James Hormel. "It energized not just this com-



Members of the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band at the Dyke March, from a documentary work-in-progress.

munity, but communities across the country. It started a whole movement toward orchestral and choral activities in the lesbian/gay constituency."

"We almost can't understand what that's like these days," said Band Artistic Director Emeritus Nancy Corporon. "It was a gathering of spirits, and with Jon in front with the kind of musical experience and charisma required, off they went. I mean, they caught a wave."

"It was very exciting," said photographer/activist Greg Day. "It was a new idea. The Band was a symbol of our community, a very exuberant, upbeat symbol. People got excited when it came down the street. It was like their hometown band that they'd grown up with. It wasn't an event if the band didn't show up. There wasn't an event that the band didn't come to."

## Community wrestling

The enthusiasm surrounding the first parade led to concerts, and Sims formed new gay music groups, including the Gay Men's Chorus, the Lesbian Chorus, Pure Trash, the Tap Troupe, and Lambda Pro Musica orchestra. There were sold-out performances, men crying in their seats, standing ovations, and new outfits. As the Cas-

tro continued to wrestle with its identity, so did the band. There was a major uproar over whether or not to add "Lesbian" to its name, and 10 years later in the Castro, an elderly man was still shaking his cane in my face, insisting that "Lesbian" had no place on our bass drum.

"Of course, like all positive symbols, the Band got caught in the crossfire of those days," said Day. "In those days, men and women were very much divided. The band became kind of a microcosm of all the problems in the community that had to be resolved. And because it's a musical group, in order to perform, they had to work it out."

Getting a clear picture of Jon Sims, founder of the band and the entire Gay Music Movement, was a bit like chasing after *Citizen Kane's* Rosebud. Contradicting opinions abound. He was a clean-cut farmboy from Kansas. He was a polished musician with high professional standards. He was too dictatorial. He was too democratic. He had no interest in politics. He was extremely savvy in his politics. Whether or not they agreed with his methods, everyone agreed that Jon loved music, and his energy and charisma moved people to join him.

"I've heard it said about Duke Ellington, he could make you do things that you didn't know you

could do, and that's very much the way I think of Jon Sims," said Doug Woods, drummer in the bands Pure Trash and City Swing. "He had a way of making people feel that what they were about to play was really important, it was a statement about who we are. It just amazes me, looking back, that he got the performances out of people that he did."

"He did not just march down the street, this man strutted," said Nancy Johnsen, former Board President. "His back was bent, his baton was up in the air, his knees were up in the air. I mean, he pranced down the street. And the audience ate it up."

Today, 25 years after its first march up Market St., the band continues to reflect its evolving community. It plays for its community's weddings at City Hall, it marches in the city's parades (reminding people that GLBT people come from all cultural backgrounds), and it greets high school students at the Hayward Gay Prom to drown out the voices of protesters. Its story continues. ▼

**The Beat Goes On: 25 Years with the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, April 26, 7 p.m. at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. Info: [www.sflgfb.org](http://www.sflgfb.org), 255-1355.**

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## Fischerspooner who?



The current kings (and queens) of the oh-so-trendy electroclash scene, Fischerspooner have a lot of hype to live up to. A New York City buzz band for years, the group is known as much for their live performances as for their music. Taking cues from the performance art world, Fischerspooner have a sense of theatricality – costumes, make-up, choreography – sorely missing from most lap-top electroclash "bands." Their debut album, humbly titled #1, has just been released, and while nothing on the record thrills quite like the percolating throb of their breakthrough club hit, "Emerge," there's still a lot to like, including an obscure cover of Wire's "The 15th." Brilliant? Or just a Sige Sige Sputnik for the new millennium? SF audiences will find out this Friday, April 25, when the group plays a sold-out show at The Fillmore. — Adrian Roberts



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KALETRA should not be taken with Halcion®, Hismanal®, Orap®, Propulsid®, Rythmol®, Seldane®, Tambocor™, Versed®, Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, Rifamate®, Mevacor®, Zocor®, ergot derivatives or products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Discuss all medicines, including those without a prescription, and herbal preparations you are taking or plan to take with your doctor or pharmacist. KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients. Pancreatitis and liver problems, which can be fatal, have been reported. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis. In patients

taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

In clinical trials, the most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe intensity were: abdominal pain, abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache, and nausea. This is not a complete list of reported side effects.

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

**KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing of HIV to others.**

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

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03B-036-7193-1

March 2003

Printed in USA

# Girls can't help it

## 'Carmen,' 'Macbeth,' 'Otello' out on DVD

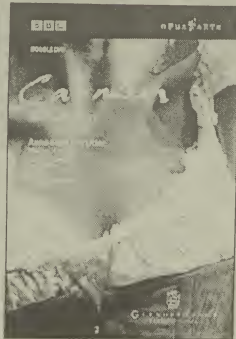
by Philip Campbell

Now that the fall/winter opera season is over in San Francisco, and the Met has concluded its 2003 Saturday broadcasts, that doesn't mean we have to go cold turkey until the summer operas. Three fresh DVDs should hold us for a while, and there's a store of new releases on the horizon.

**Carmen** - Georges Bizet; von Otter; Haddock; Naouri; Milne; London Philharmonic Orchestra; The Glyndebourne Chorus; Philippe Jordan; Tecwyn Evans (Opus Arte)

Luxuriously recorded on two discs, with many extra features, this Glyndebourne Festival production may be one of the hottest interpretations of Bizet's timeless classic in years.

Known for her recital performances and extensive discography, mezzo-soprano Anne Sofie



von Otter here makes an impressive showing as the gypsy girl with a heart of tarnished gold. Her overtly sexual portrayal is considered and intelligent, but she never seems to be having much fun with it.

Singing the "Habanera" with cigar clenched between her teeth and flirting compulsively with

dead eyes may fit with director David McVicar's ominous vision, but von Otter's sweaty sensuality seem labored and overanxious. She looks and sounds predictably right without showing much charm or humor.

Marcus Haddock makes a suitably straight-laced Don Jose, singing well and growing believably desperate. Both of the lovers are neurotic from the top, but again it works for the production. Jose's final explosion of violence seems at once shocking and inevitable.

Lisa Milne's Micaela stands outside the central conflict, as if she wandered in from another company. Her anxiety is only expressed vocally, and she hits the notes with an edgy quality that at least adds character.

A welcome addition is Laurent Naouri's fully-realized toreador. Carmen wants him for an escape clause, and all the other girls crave his dark good looks and sexy pants. He certainly fulfills their ex-

pectations.

Lesser roles are well-portrayed, and the visual production is particularly effective. The small Glyndebourne stage is gorgeously filled, and I don't think I have ever seen the dances or fights done better. Choreographer Andrew George and Fight Director Nicholas Hall are each featured in well-deserved extra segments.

Here is a dark, modern take on Carmen inside a traditional setting. Add the benefits of Philippe Jordan's sensitive conducting, and you might want to visit the beautiful gardens of Glyndebourne via DVD.

**Macbeth** - Giuseppe Verdi; Hampson; Marrocu; Scanduzzi; Lima; Chorus and Orchestra of Zurich Opera House; Franz Welsch-Most (TDK Mediactive)

If you thought Don Jose and Carmen were disturbed, Macbeth and his Lady make them seem like Jack and Jill. In David Pountney's superb realization of Verdi's prob-



lematic Shakespearean opera, Thomas Hampson brings new meaning to erotic domination.

The fluid minimal settings and vaguely modern costumes never obscure the fast-paced staging. Even the chorus of witches — so hokey in some productions — appears valid and frightening.

Paoletta Marrocu enters the ranks of great Lady Macbeths with a portrayal that is uncommonly secure vocally, and utterly believable physically. We can almost feel a twinge of sympathy for her — the girl just can't help it.

Hampson's tortured Macbeth is haunted and haunting. He looks terrific and has no trouble filling the Zurich auditorium with a steady stream of beautiful sound. There is never a doubt about his motivation when the Lady of the house is about, and their final scenes are shattering.

Roberto Scanduzzi as Banquo and Luis Lima as Macduff are both excellent, but only Franz Welsch-Most and the thrilling chorus and orchestra ultimately match the memorable power of the two stars.



**Otello** - Giuseppe Verdi; Franz; Magee; Alexeev; Rugamer; Berlin State Opera Chorus; Berlin Staatskapelle; Daniel Barenboim (ArtHaus Musik)

By the time Verdi got around to Shakespeare again, he had acquired a much better librettist, Arrigo Boito. He had also transcended the conventions of earlier Italian operas. The resulting masterpiece was *Otello*, and all it really requires is three of the best singing actors available and a dazzling conductor.

This misbegotten staging by Jürgen Flimm appears hell-bent on sinking Verdi's intentions; it even takes place on a luxury liner. The titular hero is inexplicably white, and his Desdemona seems vaguely morose. The movement of the chorus and supernumeraries is stiff and generally distracting. Only Daniel Barenboim's thrilling control of the orchestra and Valery Alexeev as Iago come anywhere near the greatness of the work.

One can't deny the striking imagery of the imposing set; and the final scene with the whole stage ablaze, reflected in an onstage pool, is amazing. But where are the singers?

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**ALERT:** Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section

"MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

#### Patient Information

#### KALETRA®

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Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

#### What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

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#### Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

#### Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

#### How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.

When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.

#### Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

#### What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you take more than one miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

#### What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

#### Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

#### Can I take KALETRA with other medications?

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

#### MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
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  - Halicor® (triazolam)
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  - Rhythmol® (propafenone)
  - Seldane® (terfenadine)
  - Tambocon® (flecainide)
  - Versed® (midazolam)

Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Bifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

#### Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Efavirenz (Sustiva®) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.

If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

#### A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:

Phenobarbital  
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)  
Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

#### Other Special Considerations:

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:

Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

#### What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are abdominal pain, abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.

Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.

Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.

Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.

There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

#### What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- If you are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- If you have liver problems: If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- If you have diabetes: Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- If you have hemophilia: Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

#### How do I store KALETRA?

Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.

Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw away any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

#### General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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## FILM

## SF Film Festival

## ◀ Arts cover

incident. Director Jose Padilha was writer/producer of *Charcoal People*, a heartbreaking study of the conditions endured by an almost feudal class of Brazil's poorest rural workers. He opens this documentary, which plays like a character-driven thriller, with a glorious helicopter-photographed tour of the breathtaking beauty of the coastal mountains of Rio de Janeiro. It's a perfect introduction to a story that cuts across social strata like a butcher's knife cuts through a bloody slab of meat. In a kind of real-life *Dog Day Afternoon* with the beat of the slow-mo freeway pursuit of OJ, Padilha cuts back and forth in time to tell the story of the hijacker, a grown-up slum-kid turned thief and drug addict who survives a murderous assault on his gang of street urchins by a police death-squad.

The portrait of Sandro, a kid who witnessed the stabbing murder of his mother when he was six, picks up every thread in the oft-told story of shantytown underclass kids, a nonfiction version of *City of God*. The climatic end of the bus siege is as stark and riveting as anything from the streets of Baghdad. (Cas, 4/24; PFA, 4/27)

Piers Lewis in *Power Trip*.

**Power Trip** When I was 13 and my British father couldn't pay the light bill, he used to string an extension cord into the hallway and tap into the landlord's electricity. In director Paul Devlin's witty documentary *Power Trip*, an entire nation cheats on their juice just the way my dad did, and for the same reason, they're broke. Say you're a citizen of Georgia (the Georgia of Joseph Stalin, not Jimmy Carter) and you make \$15 a month, and the American-owned power company charges you \$24 a month to keep electricity on. You do the math.

Devlin, who started filming rap artists and slam poetry, answered a plea by a colleague (the British-born Piers Lewis) to investigate what life was like for the residents of a part of the former Soviet Union, the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, now that American-style capitalism had come to their town. The Georgia government sold the public powerworks to the Virginia-based AES Corp. It was the ponytailed Lewis' job to convince Georgians to pay to keep their lights on, and to turn their lights off if they didn't.

They didn't and he did, the

very sexy Lewis vowing he wouldn't cut his hair until a majority of the population paid up. Devlin gives a surreal account of what followed: public riots, the assassination of an intrepid TV newsman, sly peasants rigging up ingenious ways to beat the system, and the local airport losing its power just as a plane was landing. The film provides a worst-case scenario that Californians can identify with, while profiling an attractive and plucky people. Since English is a second language for young Georgians, *Power Trip* can be enjoyed in a subtitle-free zone. (Kab, 4/29, 30)



Off the Charts: far-fetched fandom.

**Off the Charts: The Song-Poem Story** Before the era of rap, hip-hop and poetry slams made everyman an artist, would-be songwriters flirted with fame by sending their home-brewed lyrics to professional song factories who would, for a fee, turn their dreams of hit-parade fame into an actual 45-rpm disc. Called song-poems, these weird and wacky records (with titles like "Hiccup Hangover," "The Echo of Your Eyes" and "Please, No More Ties for Christmas") are a catalogue of some pretty far-fetched attempts to get that elusive 15 minutes of fame. But Jamie Meltzer's PBS documentary isn't searching merely for cheap laughs. Meltzer discovers some truly moving stories.

Jazz musician Ellery Eskelin has collected memories from a stack of vanity records made by his father, Rodney Eskelin, a frustrated artist who died in a fall from a highway overpass when Ellery was an infant. As Eskelin observes, his father put his heart into these recordings. "He saw it as a form of musical prostitution. You might want to laugh on the one hand, and you might be touched by the honesty or the beauty at the same time." (Kab, 4/27)

**The Spanish Apartment** This is a giddy, heartfelt tale of a gaggle of young men and women getting a dose of forced intimacy and culture shock during a year as international exchange students in a crowded, shabby Barcelona flat—a situation close to the hearts of many of us suffering from roommate fatigue. Director/writer Cedric Klapisch flirts with national stereotypes and standard bedroom farce as he ponders whether a new identity is emerging with today's Euro-generation. The most engaging relationship forms

when a homesick, hairy-chested Frenchman gets some hands-on advice about what women really desire, from an experienced Belgian lesbian. (Kab, 4/29)

Hurt and Hoffman in *Mahowny*.

**Owning Mahowny** Based on a true story, this low-key tale of a Canadian banker turned gambling addict provides yet another test of the acting mettle of Philip Seymour Hoffman. Adept at depicting the passions of men who would seem to possess no passion at all, Hoffman is splendid as Dan Mahowny, a silver-tongued loan officer who feels truly alive only when he's losing other people's money. John Hurt is chilling as the reptilian floor boss of an Atlantic City casino who's determined to crack the icy cool of his biggest high-roller, and Minnie Driver is the woman who stands by her man, a man who, emotionally, never emerges from the fetal position. Director Richard Kwietniowski's film is a spoof of the foxes who are appointed to guard the chicken coop of our life savings. (Kab, 4/28, 5/1)

Rock 'n' roll rebellion in *MC5*.

**MC5: A True Testimonial** The title suggests an especially esoteric auto part, or perhaps the unholy marriage of a loud electric guitar and a 400-horsepower car. A surviving member of Detroit's premier white working-class kick-out-the-jams band describes its birth in the city's Lincoln Park. The name became a code for various types of outré behavior: "Mongolian Cluster-Fuck Five; Morally Corrupt; Much Cock." The founding story consists of a fistfight in an ice-covered parking lot between two headstrong teenagers, followed by a five-hour soul rap. As another band member confesses, "If I hadn't found rock 'n' roll, I don't know: armed robbery, definitely assault and battery." David C. Thomas' film, with

a heart-pounding soundtrack, recalls a time (late '60s) when rock 'n' roll meant rebellion. (Kab, 4/25)



Girlhood: caught in juvey justice.

**Girlhood** Flash-forward, and today it's slum girls who are kicking out the jams. Director Liz Garbus tracks the stories of two teenage girls caught up in a juvenile justice system that barely knows what to do with them. Shanae is locked up for killing a girlfriend friend in a knife fight when she was 12. One of the film's most terrifying moments comes when Shanae tries to admit to feelings of regret that she clearly doesn't feel.

Megan is in the system primarily because her mother's a habitual offender. Megan's reunion with her mom evokes complex feelings.

The ending will surprise, and offers modest hopes for the future. (Kab, 4/24, 28)

Genre-bending *Peck on the Cheek*.

**A Peck on the Cheek** The Bollywood style of playful musical kitsch and romantic hijinks is subverted to a political theme by Muslim subcontinent director Mani Ratnam. Alternating as a mythical fable, a realistic war drama, and a children's adventure story, *A Peck on the Cheek* may surprise you with how tightly it holds you in its genre-bending grip. An Indian couple agonize over telling their beloved daughter that she was adopted at birth when her Sri Lankan mother was obliged to give her up after touching her just once. Their reunion is worth the wait. (PFA, 4/27; Kab, 4/29) ▼

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## Opera on DVD

## ◀ previous page

Christian Franz as Otello is in trouble from his first entrance, sounding shrill and squally. He grows stronger and finishes well, despite the ridiculous warpaint he smears on his face. Perhaps no one besides Domingo could rise above this idiocy.

Emily Magee is okay as Desdemona, but her acting is generic. If she is going to go the Kiri Te Kanawa route, she should at least sound as good. It is impossible to remain unmoved by the heroine's plight, and Magee's final moments are touching. Too bad she had to go through the previous acts to get there.

Alexeev is the one riveting principal, and his Iago is very

good indeed. All menace and innuendo, he wields a dark baritone and arresting stage presence. When he sings his "Credo," he really stops the show, and for a few moments we can believe again in the brilliance of Verdi's writing.

For the rest of the evening, the focus is on Barenboim's exciting propulsion of the score, and the breathtaking but totally unnecessary stage machinery. ▼

# BAR TALK



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## PARTING GLANCES

**San Bruno Parking Lot 3/24**  
You were in your car. Let's meet this time. ☎ 72507

**Erasure Concert 3-21-03**  
We were talking, dancing and we kissed. Would really like to see you again. Tried calling, but it was the wrong number. ☎ 72508

**J Car 3/27**  
You long grey beard with Italian book. Me - Red beard. You sat next to me, smiled as I left at Market. Please call. ☎ 72509

**Paul Taylor Sat. 3/29**  
Me: Older WM dressed in black, bald w/glasses with Asian friend. You: good-looking Asian in jeans/white top, with two friends in row in front of us. Let's Talk ☎ 72510

**Gaylord's Noon Sat March 29**  
You in shorts, me in white hat. We exchanged greetings/energy. I want to know you. ☎ 72527

**Peet's On Mkt-Sat 4/5**  
Me - in bright yellow running pants. You - on line and smiling. We spoke about the Embarcadero Farmers Mkt. Would love to see you again. ☎ 72550

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Seriously Seeking Cute Long WM**  
I'm 35, Blk, 5'9", 139, 7 3/4" uncult. Desires to meet you. I will serve you like a king in all ways. Treat me well, and I will be the best thing in your life. ☎ 72511

**Muscular Italian Amer seeks**  
Asian. Professionally employed, responsible, sincere. 44yrs. Seeks a smooth, toned/muscular Asian. I'm passionate and cultured. Please no games/bar scene. ☎ 72512

**Seeking Tough Nip Workout**  
Buddy. 48 WGM, 220#, Brn, Bln, salt&pepper, tats, piercing. Serious nip pig with huge erect nips! ISO hardcore nip pig workout buddy for extensive nip workout sessions. Smokers A+ ☎ 72513

**GJM 40 Near Lake Merritt**  
Seeking drinking, hanging out buddy. Like films, stage, food, baseball, drinking, etc. Not a sex ad. Age, size, race, looks unimportant. Urgently need male companionship. ☎ 72519

**Want a Mentor?**  
Looking for young men 22-32 who feel they need a little guidance by this 58 yr, 6'1", 195, GWM, NS, LD preferred. I enjoy time at home, weekend drives, cooking/gardening, dogs etc. You like other things? Great! I'll learn from you too. ☎ 72520

**I'm 48 5'9" 150# Work Out 3 Days**  
A week swimmer build, big arms, nice pecs, flat stomach, nice dick, smooth tight butt, into arts, zen, yoga, & life, I.N.S. other inshape guys to date. Age, race unimportant nice body cool attitude a must. HIV- ☎ 72528

**Monogamous Muscular Man**  
Seeks SGM, HIV-neg, 45-60 for dating and mutual titplay in S.F. Face unimportant, physique is. I'm Asian, 5'7", 150#, mustache, smooth 40" chest, 30" waist. N/S. ☎ 72529

**Cute Young Russian**  
Is looking for another cute intelligent Russian or European under 40 to share all the pleasures life has to offer. ☎ 72530

**Slender And Masculine**  
Looking for another slender & masculine guy born after 1958 to get-together regularly for films, food, and naked erotic fun. I swim and have a nice cock. ☎ 72552

**Latin Guy 4 U Versatile**  
38yrs. GLM smooth masculine versatile athletic body great butt brown skin looking 4 a long-term relationship with GWM or GLM under 38yrs. masc. HIV+ healthy @ 5'8" to 5'11" weight proportioned to ht. Nice guy versatile. No drugs or smoking only. SF. ☎ 72531

**S/W HIV- 53 Oral Bottom**  
Bear Seeks 50+ HIV- oral top type n/d smoking ok. ☎ 72551

**Looking For Latino Boyfriend**  
Good looking GWM 35 looking for good looking Latino HIV- for relationship. No drugs, please. ☎ 72553

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Are you 40-60? Like Head?**  
Cocksucker seeks dominate top to blow. Height & weight not as important as attitude. You are in charge Sir. Boy is 40, tall, HIV+, attractive. Likes tit work, sucking and being told what to do. ☎ 72514

**Full Deepthroat Oral Service**  
By SF GWM, 6'1", 185#, fit, GL, friendly, masculine, HIV-, D/D free. Complete oral service delivered to your place with no reciprocation necessary. ☎ 72515

**Neighborhood Oral- J/O Buddy**  
GWM 54, 6', 165#, HIV Neg., discreet, mustache, s/p hair, smoker seeks buddy for oral, J/O, Kissing, touching, pleasure. Geary to Washington/Jones to Franklin Area. Must have a place. ☎ 72516

**EBay GWM Bear Cpl ISO Bears**  
to come visit us in Antioch for some hottub/pool fun. Hairy, masculine singles or couples. We are bearded, hairy, HIV-, 40's, prefer minimum versatile guys over 35, over 180#. ☎ 72518

**ISO Suck Buddy, WM, Latin, Asn.**  
Masculine, discreet, WM, 5'10", 170#. 7" w/c needs regular care. I am HIV-, disease free. UB also, can travel. ☎ 72521

**Mature Smokers**  
WLM 46, 6', 165lbs, moderate hairy. ISO older M who is a regular cigar/cigarette smoker who enjoys deep kissing, affection & oral pleasures. No gay scene or Lifestyle. Body type not important. ☎ 72522

**Suckable Sausage**  
Get on your Knees and kiss and lick it. Masculine lean muscled guy seeks guys under 45 with tight butts who get turned on being submissive. ☎ 72523

**Boiysh Asian**  
Seeking smooth gym toned WM for mutual massage, oral service and J/O. Let's play! ☎ 72524

**Sensual Redheads**  
WLM 46, 6', 165lbs, dark hair, mustache, moderate hairy. I'm seeking men with reddish hair over 40 who enjoy sensual oral pleasures. Not into gay scene or drugs. Smoking light drinking OK. ☎ 72525

**Smooth Boyish Asian**  
Seeking smooth gym toned White male for mutual massage, jerk-off and oral service. Be my new play buddy! ☎ 72532

**Hung Hispanic Guys Wanted!**  
If you're Hispanic and hung "8", "9" or "10" inches or more, call me to get serviced, party, watch videos etc. ☎ 72544

**-Erotic Encounter-**  
Complimentary sensual massaged given to in-shape guys in 20s or 30s who need relief. Friendly WPM in East Bay wide provide you with relaxing tantric session. ☎ 72533

**Hung Guys Needed If You're**  
Hung 9 or 10 inches or more and your White, Hispanic or Italian, call me so we can get together. ☎ 72540

**9 P.M. And I've Got To Have It:**  
A cock, a fist, balls in my mouth my dildo's not enough. I'm horny. Can't someone give this White, male bottom what he's begging for? ☎ 72534

**•Opposites Attract•**  
Big-dick Italian top gets hard for bottom boys with small dicks and bubble butts. Any race. ☎ 72535

**Oral Expert For Hung Guys**  
I'm hung and I'm seeking to service guys who are hung "9" or "10" inches or more. We can party and watch videos. ☎ 72536

**Young European Bottom!!**  
In search for a dominant top or tops to submit to any training or group scenes 5'10", 160lbs, full lips, cute baby face, tight hole. Be under 40. ☎ 72537

**-Hispanic Love Man-**  
(Oh where can you be?) I'm looking for the right Hispanic guy, for a relationship, etc. If hung A+. ☎ 72538

**Use Your Mouth!**  
Masculine swimmer with nice cut cock and smooth 31 waist but needs oral service on both sides. Healthy HIV- guy 44 seeks healthy trim waist-ed guys 20 to 47 to make me feel good. ☎ 72539

**Do Your Weenie A Big Favor...**  
And stick it in my mouth. Clean healthy senior GWM with no teeth seeks big w. masc. guy. ☎ 72541

**Mature Male CMT**  
Is looking for other male CMT over 40 for giving and receiving Swedish massage on a regular basis. ☎ 72542

**R.U. Lanky And U.C.**  
This mid 50s GWM would like to work you over. Be clean, any race, 20-40, and willing to have a good time. ☎ 72543

**Slave Wanted**  
Need a submissive slender guy with a tight butt under 40 to follow orders and worship suckable mushroom headed sausage. Trim 44 white guy. Can be nice or mean. ☎ 72517

**Spank Your Butt**  
Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175lbs, seeks well-built bottom with nice, round ass for over-the-knee spanking, role playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 72555

**Pinched Nips Get Your Dick Hard???**  
Hairy men get you horny? Tall built poz daddies get you going? Kissing sucking jacking gets your rocks off? Repeats single local gets your attention? Same for me!!! ☎ 72556

**Bluecollar White Cocksucker 40**  
Turned onto baseball players, coaches, umpires, esp college who like getting serviced in their sweaty uniforms, after game or practice seeking W/M 23-40 discreet, clean drug disease free can travel or host Batter Up! ☎ 72557

**Outdoor Sex/Nude Beach Fun**  
GWM very fit fun and active seeks buddies for outdoor j/o and sucking. We enjoy outdoors, hiking, cycling, beaches and nudist retreats. ☎ 72558

**GJM 49 Near Lake Merritt**  
Seeking drinking, hanging out buddy. Like films, stage, food, baseball, drinking, etc. Not a sex ad. Age, size, looks unimportant. Urgently need male companionship. S 72554

## FETISHES

**"Stroking For Hours"**  
Seeking masculine/average guy for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking/partying buddy desired. Some oral OK. Your place, PM only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes only. ☎ 72545

**-Young Cuck Bottom To Submit-**  
To a dog training and/or submissive slave training by a cute but demanding master total obedience and cooperation guaranteed. Be under 40. The boy is 5'10", 160lbs, full lips, baby face. Very cute and eager. ☎ 72546

**Italians Love Cheese!**  
Goodlooking Italian 45yrs, 175lbs 5'11" interested in uncut men with lots of cheese. Any race 18-50yrs. Into other raunch also. San Jose area preferred. ☎ 72547

**Drag Queens Cigars Ravish...**  
Me. Bi-male. Awesome, age 55. ISO femme drag-queens (21-40 only). 69, suck/fuck, be cigar-smokers, no drugs/alcohol-disease-free... ☎ 72548

**Get It Out/Up & I'm Down On!**  
Prelims a snap—even tough uncuts heat (got 9.8 of possible 10): now I need your vote for BABC (Bay Area's Best Cocksucker) audition time on your dick pronto pls! ☎ 72549

**Stoking For Hours**  
Seeking masculine/average guy for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking/partying buddy desired. Some oral OK. Your place, PM only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes only. ☎ 72559

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- ☐ Parting Glances  
☐ Seeking Relationship  
☐ Seeking Adventure  
☐ Lesbian  
☐ Fetishes  
☐ Couples  
☐ Others

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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STRONG HANDS  
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**STEVE C.M.T.**  
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BY FRED OR BUTCHY  
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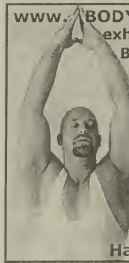
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Relaxing Swedish massage,  
36,6/2,195, handsome with strong  
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Bear offers hot butt-prostate,  
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Horny Guy w/Hot Tub 4 Good Times  
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A retreat for queer men on an erotic  
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Attractive water polo player provides  
Swedish massage in Speedos. (415)  
273-5113. Steve. 24/7.

Strong, Sensual - Full body massage  
by tall, hung, handsome Latino. Call  
Sergio 415-225-4963.

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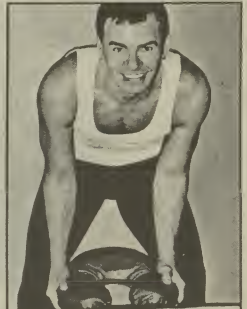
Unique style therapeutic and erotic  
massage in front of a fireplace. Out  
calls available also. Johnny 503-3060

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Sergei's Body Work  
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laxed. Alan CMT 510-436-3330.

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/Also deep hot prostate work/90 min  
\$90/2hrs \$100/ 2.5hrs \$125/Heron  
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Italian Hunk CMT Versatile.  
190#, 6'4", 34,8"cut. Diverse body  
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Touch Me All Over/X-Rated Rub by  
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Body Electric trained CMT offers  
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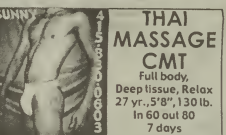
Upper Haight/Panama-Lyon  
75 minutes/\$70  
Peter  
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**SUNNY**

**THAI  
MASSAGE  
CMT**

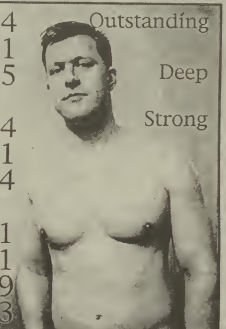
Full body,  
Deep tissue, Relax  
27 yr., 5'8", 130 lb.  
In 60 out 80  
7 days



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**Outstanding**

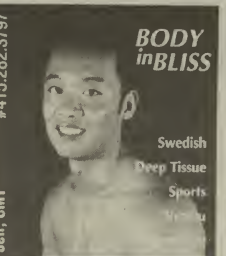
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Magical Massage Mastery that  
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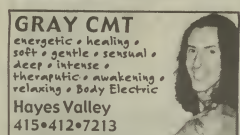
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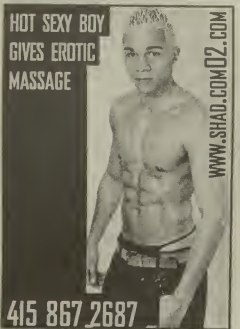
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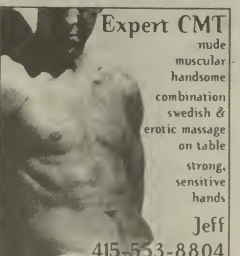
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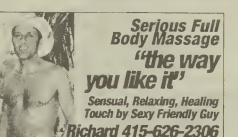
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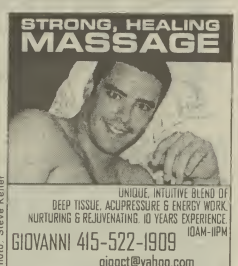
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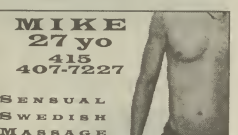
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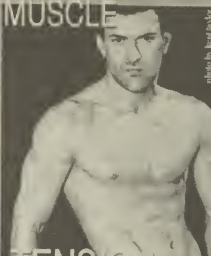
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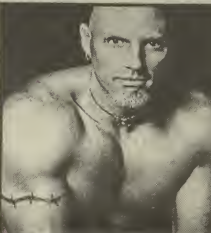
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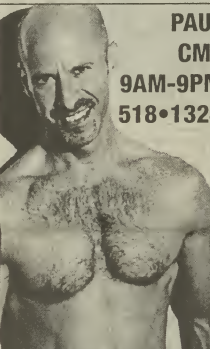
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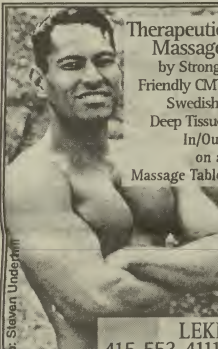
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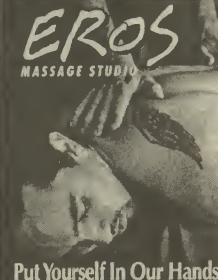
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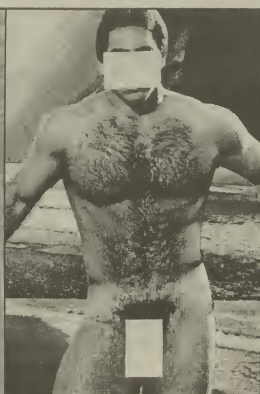
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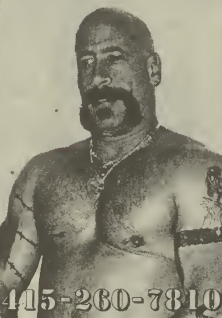
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## Leather Play

from Mild to Wild. Sensual &amp; Slow.

This Top likes to take his time.

Playroom/sling/most scenes.

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5'11", 180lbs. Muscular (x-fine)!!

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Aggressive 2 laid back raw horny

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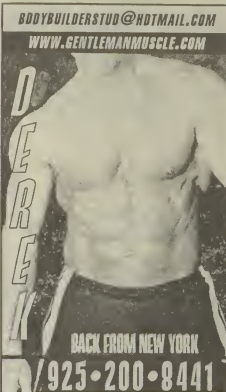
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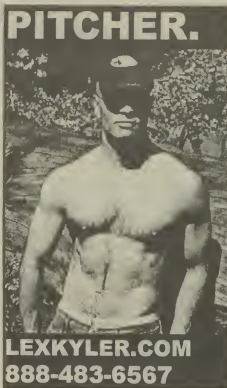
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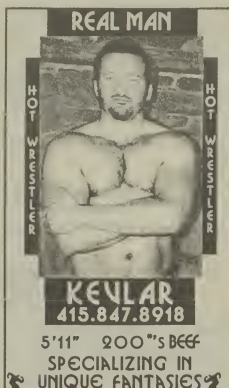
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 Tight end & firm buns to please  
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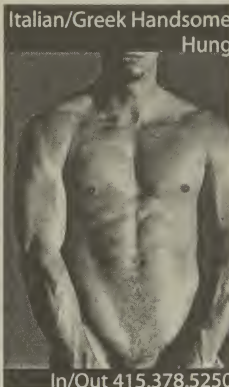
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Sexy, masculine, w/buzzcut, goatie  
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 Well hung, big balls, 6ft, ez-goin  
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 gym ripped, ultra smooth, friendly  
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 Extra tall 6'6" 230 lbs  
 Extra goodlkg smth musc build  
 Extra hung true 10x7 tool  
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I'm a slim, smooth, 23 year old,  
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 tom. Your fantasies at your place or  
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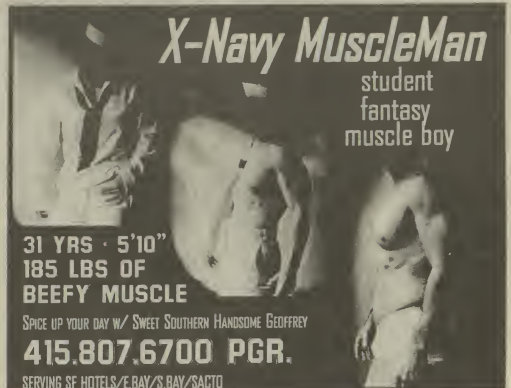
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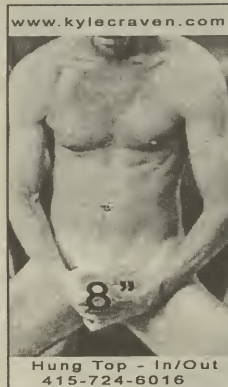
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 Sub. German boy. Tie up this bottom  
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 Dominant masculine man open 2 all  
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 Spanking u, role playing, verbal trips,  
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Frat boy Hunk  
 Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
 Deep throat and young jock ass  
 5'9", 155#, 30"W, 8" 640-4045

When you need a man, not a boy.  
**MASCUINE BR/BR DOMINANT**  
 Clean-cut look. Thirtysomething

**U-N-C-U-T 9X7**

\$100. Call Joe @ 415-565-7399

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 Hot playful btm cub 5'9" 165 ink  
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My big fat piece of tool is sexy.

**PEACE IS SEXY**

Call 24/7. Strictly top.XXX-thick

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**NEW TO THE BIZ**

20, 5'7", 138#, 8x6 uncut & smooth

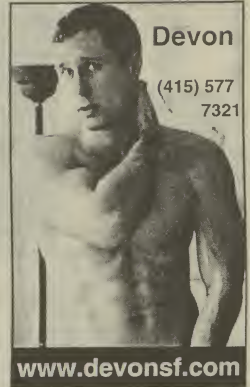
Hot face & gym toned body,

Daytime discounts available.

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me and my thick 8" \*All scenes\*

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actual photo 1/24/03

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FRI APRIL 25TH 7PM-11PM  
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**COME**  
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TOP wants submissive butt pigs.  
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**CONGRATULATIONS TO SF BOYS OF LEATHER**  
on the success of your Pre-Oscar Party @ Daddy's on Saturday, March 22nd. Good show!

**MR. SF LEATHER 2004**  
contest is Saturday, Sep. 27th, 2003  
Are you man/leather enough to hold the title? Plan now. Get involved!

**EAST BAY BODY WAXING AND BODY SHAVING**

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**STILL THE BEST!**  
Julian's butt that is. Golden Dildeaux or not, that thing is amazing!!! Thank God for Underwear night at Daddy's.

**SUSAN LUCCI NO MORE!**  
Kevin, after being nominated for...how many years? The title is at last yours...Golden Globes!!! Congrats.

Good Head in Sonoma County.  
Call Days 707-823-3895

## HONORED

It was simply an honor to have been nominated for a Golden Dildeaux. But, to have won! Well, I'd like to thank the members of the Academy. The people who make those tasty little urinal pucks, and of course that bartender I went home with who passed out and wet my bed - thereby introducing me to my life of urine-soaked sheets. My only regret is that I was unable to extricate myself from the urinals at Powerhouse to attend the ceremony in person and accept my award.

Bare-Assed Spanking  
Experienced, Safe: 415-929-1185

**S.F. SPANK PARTY INFO**  
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**MAMA'S LEATHMAN 03?**  
Watch for important announcement coming soon. Winner will compete for the Mr. SF Leather 2004 title the night before the Folsom St. Fair.

## LEATHER NEWS

from around the U.S. & Canada by seasoned journalists ONLY on [www.LeatherPage.com](http://www.LeatherPage.com). Check it out!

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WM will JO/BJ/Rim all races 18-28, fit. S Cruz Co. 831-722-3739

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GOLDEN DILDEAUX AWARDS WINNERS**

AND good show, bravo to the Golden Gate Guards for another evening of high camp, fun and profit for the beneficiaries!

Men in Boots - Boot Bottom ISO hot boot action. 408-295-1634.

**GOOD LUCK JEFFREY OF SF @ ABW IN WASH, DC**  
CALIFORNIA LEATHER BOY 2002

**BARE CHEST CALENDAR COVERMAN CONTEST**  
is tonight, Thursday, April 24th at the Powerhouse Bar, 9:30PM. Who will grace the cover and the back cover? Be there!

## SCOTT KING

LATRINE QUEEN of 'Frisco!!  
Serves YOU right, my dear! Careful, don't drown in The Yellow Sea!

## PERSONALS

## PEOPLE

## WANTED!

## BAY AREA MEN

- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail
- 24 Hours
- \$2.00
- 976-7500

**Free**  
(415) 981-8123

## HMMMM

I have yet to receive my Golden Dildeux Award. Rumor has it that it was accepted on my behalf by a certain SOMA bartender who claims to be a top. But, he seems to want to keep the award. I wonder whatever for.

E18

Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location". Call 4 apptmt \* 626-1168

E20

TOP wants submissive butt pigs.  
415-752-0971.

E22

Local Men Sexdate: 888-788-8989

E24

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**SF BOYS OF LEATHER**  
on the success of your Pre-Oscar Party @ Daddy's on Saturday, March 22nd. Good show!

E11-3

**MR. SF LEATHER 2004**  
contest is Saturday, Sep. 27th, 2003  
Are you man/leather enough to hold the title? Plan now. Get involved!

E35

## BARE CHEST CALENDAR COVERMAN CONTEST

is tonight, Thursday, April 24th at the Powerhouse Bar, 9:30PM. Audience participation matters here guys. Come make some noise for your favorite shirtless calendar man. These guys' mugs have to sell some calendars...and that benefits our community as a whole.

Who will grace the cover and the back cover? Be there!

E17

San Francisco's #1 Gay Dateline  
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E21

WM will J0/BJ/Rim all races 18-28,  
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E20

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E17



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Customized to your taste

Mega Man Productions  
PO Box 64  
South Milwaukee, WI 53150  
[www.MEGAHOTGUYS.US](http://www.MEGAHOTGUYS.US)



## BAY AREA REPORTER

## PERSONALS ORDER FORM

Indicate  
Type Style  
Here ▼

X-BOLD Stops Here ▼

BOLD Stops Here ▼

CAPS Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

## DEADLINE

## NOON on MONDAY.

Payment must accompany ad.  
No ads taken over the  
telephone. If you have a  
question, call 415.861.5019.  
Display advertising rates  
available upon request.

## RATES

First line, Regular 4.50  
All subsequent lines 3.00  
CAPS double price  
BOLD double price  
X-BOLD triple price

## PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash  
☐ Personal Check  
☐ Money Order  
☐ Visa  
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge  
on Visa and MasterCard.

## CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

MAIL WITH  
PAYMENT TO:  
BAY AREA  
REPORTER  
395 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94103

OR FAX TO:  
415.861.8144



**LOVE**

**LUST**

**AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN**

**GAY.COM**

**HUGE PERSONALS**

**FREE CHAT**

**HOT VIDEO CHAT**

**READY TO PLAY? [HTTP://MEN.GAY.COM/SIGN](http://men.gay.com/sign)**